Sunday, August 26, 2007 ★★ 13 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 259 P20 website: www.inquirer.net

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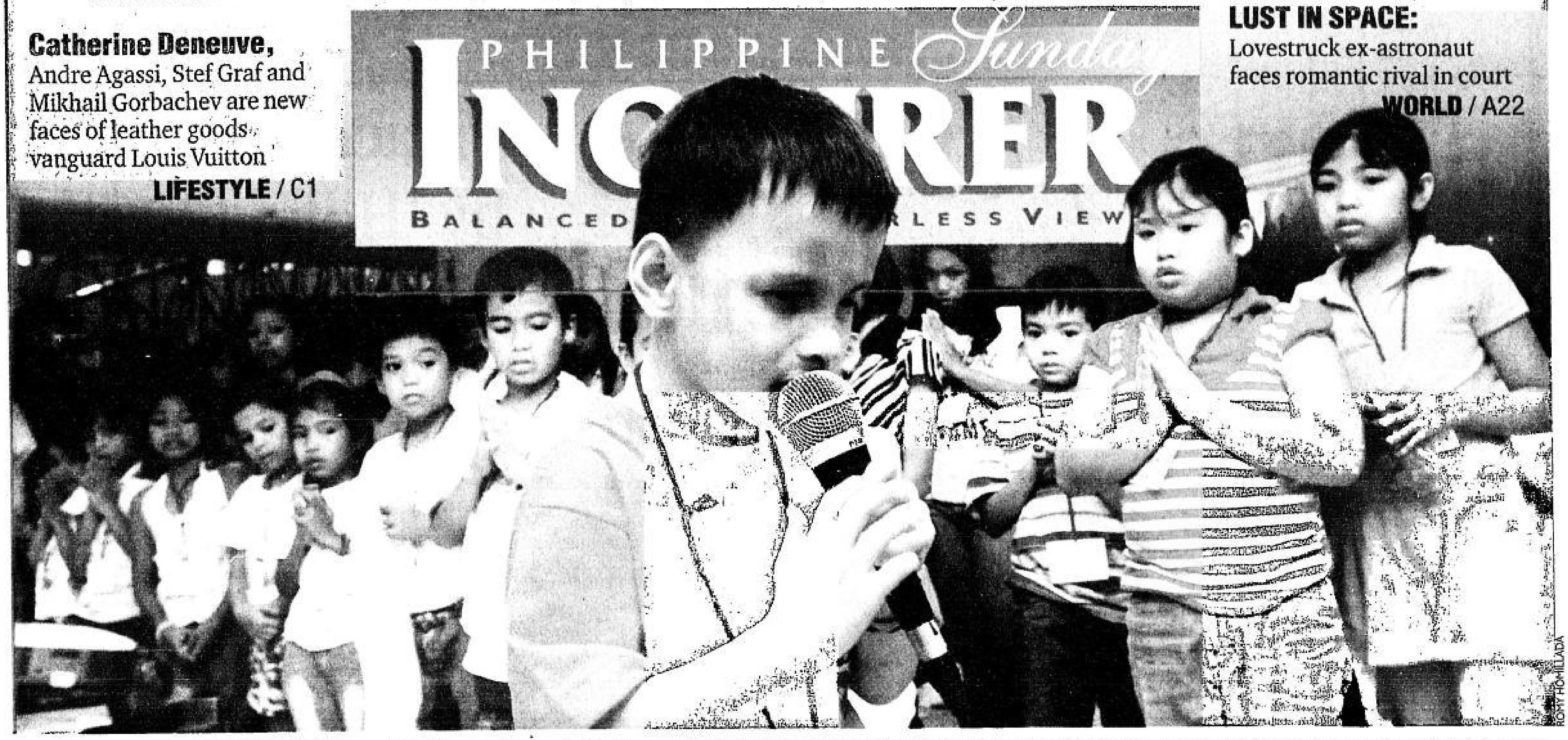
WORLD / A22

PHILIPPINE Sunday
INQ RER
BALANCED RLESS VIEW



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By Julie Alipala, *Inquirer Mindanao*
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Gov Ed's dev't plan off to good start with quarry funds pouring in

By Beverly T. Natividad

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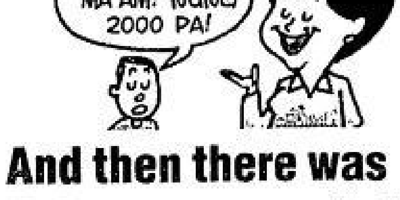
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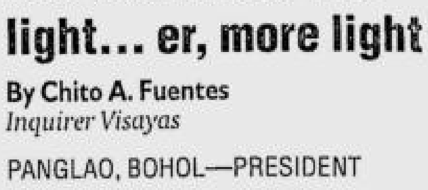

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AND THEN/ A10

RETAKE OF PRECEDING FRAME

EZ2
25 6
SIX DIGIT
3 2 5 9 7 4
Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening
2 9 1 | 1 1 8
(All in exact order)
6/42 LUZON/VIS-MIN
4 16 22 26 35 37
P13,960,200.60

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Luzon, Western Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Mostly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Mostly Cloudy
Baguio	Mostly Cloudy	Roxas	Mostly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Mostly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Mostly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Mostly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Mostly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Mostly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Mostly Cloudy
Legazpi	Mostly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Mostly Cloudy
Calapan	Mostly Cloudy	Davao	Mostly Cloudy

COMPILED BY: SCHATZI QUODALA, PDI RESEARCH/08/25/07 SOURCE: PAGASA

Inventory of Metro cops' guns ordered

Firearm sales to rebels, terrorists feared

By Nancy Carvajal

POLICE UNITS IN METRO MANILA HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO TAKE an inventory of their armories after an intelligence report suggested that terrorists might obtain firearms and ammunition from rogue policemen and military personnel to replenish their dwindling arsenal.

"Reports said the enemies are planning to purchase firearms and ammunition from dishonest policemen and members of the Armed Forces," National Capital Region Police Office chief Deputy Director General Reynaldo Varilla said, in issuing a memorandum directing the police to monitor and account for all their firearms.

The Philippine National Police last week raised the alert level in Metro Manila in anticipation of a possible spillover of the armed conflict in Sulu and Basilan.

The inventory-taking, Varilla said, was a preemptive measure aimed at thwarting any group planning to sow terror in the capital.

A police source who asked not to be named for lack of authority to speak, said rebels fighting the military in Mindanao were facing logistics problems due to the prolonged fighting.

He said the rebels were interested in high-powered guns and ammunition used mainly by Special Weapons and Tactics team members and the Special Action Force.

The intelligence report might have some substance, the source said, since the prices of such firearms have risen. For instance, he said, the going rate for an M-16 rifle was now between P35,000 and P40,000, when it previously sold in the black market for only P25,000.

The report also indicated that Abu Sayyaf terrorists planned to bomb in various facilities in Basilan, including power plants, to divert military attention away from them.

The military stated it had suffered 57 fatalities while 42 Abu Sayyaf bandits had been killed since the renewed offensive was launched in July following the beheading of 14 Marines.

In Cotabato City yesterday, ecumenical and inter-faith groups urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to put a stop to the war in Basilan and Sulu.

"If this all-out war will not cease, it will just cost many more lives and further drain the national coffers," Fr. Joe Dizon, convenor of the Ecumenical Voice for Peace and Human Rights in the Philippines, and Amirah Lidasan of Initiatives for Peace in Mindanao, said in a joint statement.

Dizon said the projected P1 billion to be spent monthly to finance the war could be used to help the people, not only in Mindanao but the entire country. *With a report from Edwin O. Fernandez, Inquirer Mindanao*

Palace unfazed by 'Hello Garci' revival, says exec

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

MALACAÑANG BELITTLED YESterday the Senate's reopening of the "Hello Garci" scandal that nearly toppled President Macapagal-Arroyo two years ago.

"There will be no 'Hyatt 10' this time," said Presidential Management Staff (PMS) chief Cerge Remonde, referring to the hotel and the 10 Cabinet secretaries who announced their resignations there after a wiretapped conversation between the President and Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano suggested fraud was committed in the 2004 polls. This triggered the administration's worst political crisis.

Despite Sen. Panfilo Lacson's revival of the electoral fraud allegations based on the testimony of former military intelligence agent T/Sgt. Vidal Doble last week, it was "business as usual" and "just another day" at the office, Remonde said.

Ignored by business

"This has largely been ignored by the business community. The people have grown tired of it," he said in a phone interview.

"I can say the Cabinet is 101-percent solid behind the President," he added.

The Hyatt 10 resignations were accompanied by calls from former President Corazon Aquino, then Senate President Franklin Drilon and other political personalities that Ms Arroyo resign. Antigovernment demonstrations were held.

The President denied she cheated but apologized to the nation anyway for a "lapse of judgement" in calling the election official while the counting was still going on.

Remonde said the President and her official family were not worried about the possible reopening of the investigation.

'Time running out'

"We have put that issue behind us. And as far as the President and the Cabinet are concerned, that is not going to distract us from the business of public service, especially now that our time is running out," he said, referring to the end of Ms Arroyo's term in 2010.

"We are not worried at all. We have confronted the worst crisis, so this is just another day at the office. We are all gung-ho about moving forward since it's our last three years," he said.

Remonde said the Cabinet had not discussed the reopening of the case.

"We never talked about it as an official family. The President had already stated that she would not allow it to distract her from doing her job of running the country," Remonde said.

Remonde said Ms Arroyo's assurance in 2005 that no cheating occurred held true for the Cabinet members today.

Closure?. "It's not for us to dictate the closure. It's for those who brought it up. The Senate is the repository of our best and brightest, they would know how to deal with this issue," Remonde said.

Asean mulls penalties for trade deal delays

SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, under pressure from volatile financial markets and the economic might of China and India, are considering sanctions for those regional nations that do not comply with crucial free trade deals on time, according to confidential reports.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) also plans to establish a strict monitoring system to ensure timely compliance with a new blueprint, which envisions transforming the region into a booming EU-style economic community by 2015, according to the reports, seen Saturday by The Associated Press.

Asean's 10 member-countries, once bastions of protectionism, have forged a number of deals among themselves to demolish trade barriers.

They are now negotiating similar pacts with Asian economic powerhouses like China and India, along with affluent Japan and South Korea—trying to benefit from the giants' overwhelming investment clout, rather than be trounced by it.

Ahead of schedule

On Friday, Asean economic ministers meeting in Manila approved a comprehensive blueprint to create an Asean Economic Community by 2015, five years ahead of the original schedule. Asean heads of state are expected to give final approval at a November summit in Singapore.

But the Asean economic bloc's chair, Philippine Trade Secretary Peter Favila, warned the blueprint was not a magic wand that could instantly transform the region "from ashes to ballroom elegance, as in the Cinderella story."

Asean Secretary General Ong Keng Yong, in a confidential report to the ministers, said the regional bloc should learn to comply with free trade obligations on time—and remove perceptions it "is prone to 'agree fast, act slow.'"

"This has fostered continuing skepticism outside official circles," Ong said. "Asean needs to focus on getting results."

In a bid to ensure compliance with free trade arrangements, Ong recommended the Asean economic ministers "institute compensatory measures or a denial of benefits for delays in implementation."

Impressive growth

While Asean's economy grew at an impressive rate of 6 percent last year, and was forecast by the Asian Development Bank to register 5.6-percent growth this year, Ong said the bloc faces a slew of challenges.

"These include high oil prices, competition from China and India, higher-than-expected inflation, increased volatility in the financial market, a faster-than-expected US economic slowdown," said Ong, adding to the list unspecified "noneconomic threats."

With its efforts to more rapidly liberalize trade, Asean "is poised for a big leap forward provided the challenges are overcome," he said.

The Asean Economic Community or AEC blueprint, a draft of which was seen by the AP, allows flexibility in the enforcement of free trade obligations, provided it's "pre-agreed and (would) not delay the overall progress and implementation of the AEC."

Under the deal, for example, import duties for all agreed on products should be slashed by Asean's six more affluent members—the Philippines, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand—by 2010.

The rest of the membership, comprising Cambodia, Laos, Burma (Myanmar) and Vietnam, should do so by 2015, with flexibility for the deadline to be extended up to 2018 for some of the four developing countries' sensitive products. AP

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Military revamp on after creation of dev't unit

By Alcuin Papa

THE CREATION OF A NEW UNIT IN THE Armed Forces of the Philippines that would focus on development projects in conflict areas like Sulu and Basilan has touched off fresh reshuffling in mid-level military posts.

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon announced Friday the formation of the AFP National Development Command (AFPNDC).

The unit, Esperon said, will undertake infrastructure projects "as directed by the national leadership in support of national development to transform conflict-affected communities into peace and development areas through accelerated barangay-focused rehabilitation and development."

President Macapagal-Arroyo declared recently the government would launch a "humanitarian offensive" to coincide with the intensified military operations in Sulu and Basilan against the Abu Sayyaf Group and rogue elements of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Vast experience

Esperon said the President had approved the designation of Maj. Gen. Jaime Buenaflor as head of the new unit. He said Buenaflor had "vast experience" in civil-military operations (CMO).

Buenaflor previously was assistant chief of staff for the Army's CMO group (G7) and commander of the AFP Civil Relations Service. Prior to this appointment, he was Deputy Chief of Staff for CMO (J7).

Other movements announced by Esperon included the appointment of Maj. Gen. Delfin Bangit, chief of the Intelligence Service of the AFP (Isafp), as commanding general of the 2nd Infantry Division based in Tanay, Rizal. This is the unit that guards former President Joseph Estrada who is under house arrest at his Tanay estate.

Bangit is a member of Philippine Military Academy Class '78 which counts the President as an adopted member. He used to be an aide to Ms Arroyo and commander of the Presidential Security Group which guards her.

Jonas Burgos case

He was in the news recently when the Isafp was dragged into the disappearance of activist Jonas Burgos, son of press freedom icon Joe Burgos. Bangit was summoned by the Commission of Human Rights regarding Burgos' disappearance but he snubbed the summons.

Bangit will replace Maj. Gen. Fernando Mesa who was appointed head of the AFP National Capital Region Command (NCR-Comm) vice Maj. Gen. Ben Dolorfino who was named commandant of the Philippine Marines.

Taking over from Bangit at Isafp is Brig. Gen. Arsenio Arugay, chief of the 9th ID based in Bicol. Replacing him at the 9th ID is Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Sodusta, AFP Internal Auditor.

Maj. Gen. Melchor Dilodilo will take command of the 5th ID based in Gamu, Isabela, replacing Maj. Gen. Rodrigo Maclang who was moved to the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom). Dilodilo was Army chief of staff before his new assignment.

Esperon also confirmed the appointment of Brig. Gen. Rolando Detabali as chief of the Office of the AFP Internal Auditor. Before this, Detabali was Army Internal Auditor.

Brig. Gen. Alfredo Cayton has been designated Deputy Chief of Staff for CMO (J-7) vice Buenaflor.

Brig. Gen. Ralph Villanueva, commandant of cadets at the PMA, was named Army chief of staff replacing Dilodilo. Villanueva is also a member of PMA Class '78.

Commodore Rafael Dacanay, commander of the Naval Construction Brigade of the Navy, has been designated chief of the AFP Real Estate Office.

General HQ chief

Army Col. Ireneo Espino, head of the 101st Infantry Brigade, was named commander of AFP General Headquarters and Headquarters Support Command in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Air Force Col. Antonio Bautista, vice commander of the Air Force Reserve Command at Clark Air Base, Pampanga, is the new AFP Adjutant General. Bautista replaces Commodore Paterno Labiano who is retiring.

Army Col. Jesse Dellosa was named commandant of cadets at PMA. Dellosa is commander of the 302nd IB.

Col. Romulo Bambao, currently deputy commander of AFP NCRCom, will take over the 101st IB.

Army Col. Cesar Yano, brother of newly installed Army chief Lt. Gen. Alexander Yano, will be chief of the 302nd IB based in Carmen, Bohol. The younger Yano was Army assistant chief for operations (G-3).

Army Col. Romeo Fajardo, deputy commander of the 303rd IB, 3rd ID, is the new deputy chief of the AFP NCRComm.

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Raps OKd against 2 in slay try on PDI reporter

CALAMBA CITY—FOUR MONTHS AFTER the failed attempt on the life of INQUIRER correspondent Delfin Mallari Jr., the Lucena City prosecutor's office recommended the filing of charges against two men believed to have been involved in the attack.

Manuel Garcia, assistant Lucena City prosecutor, said in a resolution he found credence in the testimonies of two witnesses who said they saw suspected gunman Renato Sudla fire a gun at Mallari and dzMM radio reporter Johnny Glorioso on the morning of April 19, 2007.

The resolution was approved by city prosecutor Thelma Bustonera.

In his order dated Aug. 6, Garcia also approved the filing of charges against another suspect, identified as Armando Encanto, the alleged driver of the motorcycle used in the ambush.

Mallari, who was then driving to work with Glorioso, survived the attack. But a bullet remains imbedded in his back, a few centimeters from his spine. Glorioso was unscathed.

"In light of the foregoing, the undersigned finds sufficient cause to hold (Encanto and Sudla) and one John Doe for trial for one count of frustrated murder for the shooting of Mallari and another count for attempted murder for the failed shooting of Glorioso," Garcia said.

Aside from endorsing the charges against the two, the prosecutor backed the assertion of Mallari that the mastermind was someone other than his attackers since he did not personally know the latter.

"(T)his investigating prosecutor finds merit in the claim of the complainants that there must be a third person who instigated or induced the respondents to commit the crime," Garcia said.

The prosecutor also assailed the lawyers of the suspects for filing separate motions for inhibition instead of submitting counteraffidavits.

The lawyers of Sudla and Encanto said they did not expect justice to be served their clients as the prosecutor's office was tainted with "political influence, prejudice and unjustifiable pressure."

Garcia dismissed the motions, saying the actions of the suspects' counsel "seem to separately, but uniformly, presume the existence of association ... between the respondents and (a) political personality."

Mallari, for his part, said he and his family were elated by the decision of the prosecutor. He said he had asked the court for an immediate trial.

"From the start, I knew a very influential politician masterminded the ambush. Now I'll just leave the case to the court. May justice prevail in the end," he said in a text message.

Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Envoy denies maid abuse, says case vs in-law closed

By Cynthia D. Balana

A FILIPINO DIPLOMAT YESTERDAY DENIED abusing his diplomatic privileges and engaging in human trafficking when he brought a young Filipino woman to the United States as a maid only to have her exploited by his mother-in-law.

In a statement e-mailed to the INQUIRER, Vice Consul Anthony Mandap of the Philippine consulate in San Francisco said the case of Arlene Gado, 23, was closed after his mother-in-law, Angelita Reyes, pled guilty to the charge and agreed to pay the woman $78,000 (about P3.6 million) in back wages.

"There was no abuse of diplomatic privileges involved here," Mandap said.

"The allegations of human trafficking are absurd and grossly exaggerated. I am not the accused in this case. It was my mother-in-law who was [convicted]," he said.

Case records showed Gado had agreed to come to the US in 2005 to work as a nanny for Mandap but she ended up working for Reyes in New Jersey in violation of her contract.

An Associated Press report from New Jersey said Gado complained she was paid only a fraction of what she was promised—$8 (about P368 at today's P46 to $1 exchange rate) per hour for a 40-hour work week, plus $12 (P552) per hour overtime pay.

US prosecutors said Gado's passport and visa were taken from her and she was instructed not to leave the house unless accompanied by family members.

In his statement to the INQUIRER, Mandap said he only took Gado's passport back to San Francisco in February this year, two years after she arrived in the US, in order to renew her visa. He said he immediately sent it back to his in-laws when he determined that it was valid for the duration of his status as her employer.

According to reports, Gado's job was to provide continuous care to Reyes' incapacitated husband, Norberto, and she was also required to give massages, manicures and pedicures to relatives and friends of the Reyeses.

She was paid $250 (P11,500) per month. This was increased to $325 (P14,950) in July 2006 when she was required to also begin caring for the Reyes' infant granddaughter.

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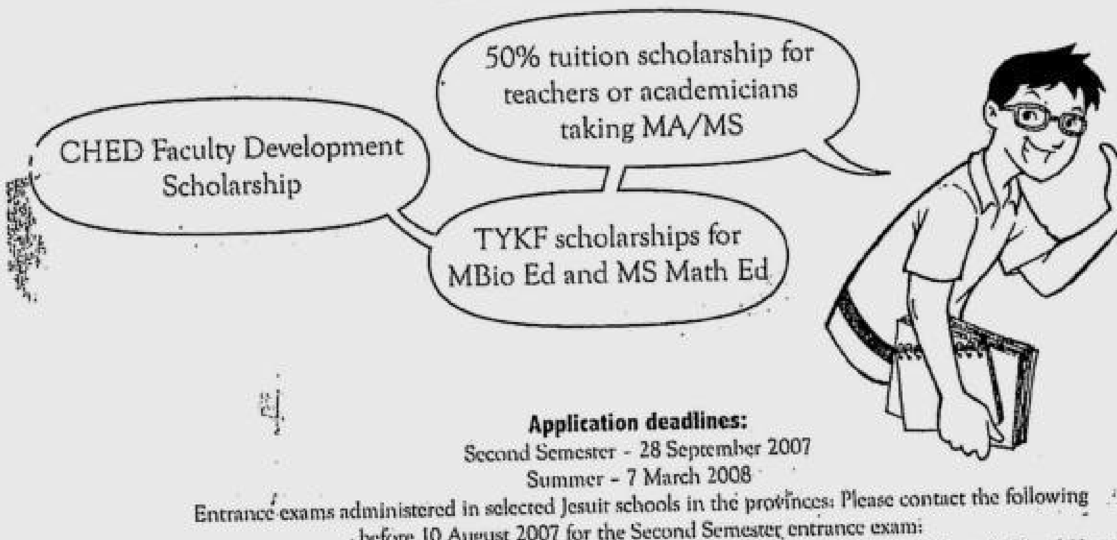
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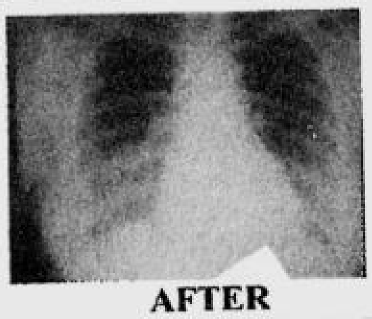

AFTER

LUNG CARCINOMA
Repeat X-Ray
- 10 days show moderate clearing of the MASS.

SUPRAGLOTTIC MASS
- CT scan and endoscopy reveals mass at the left Arthenoidal Area.

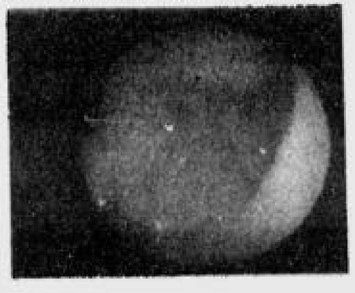
BEFORE

AFTER

SUPRAGLOTTIC MASS
After one month Endoscopy was done. It was observed that, there is an absence of any lesion in the supraglottis. No mass noted at CT Scan

NPCA
- Endoscopy showed Nasopharyngeal Mass Biopsy revealed Squamous Cell Carcinoma

BEFORE


AFTER

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-Regression of Tumor.
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'Pin-Pin' the eagle roosts on logo, awaits freedom

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
Inquirer Mindanao

PIN-PIN is short for "Pinturang Pinoy."

JEFFREY TUPAS / INQUIRER MINDANAO

DAVAO CITY—AFTER soaring for almost half a century, the American bald eagle is landing to give way to the Philippine eagle on the logo of a top paint brand.

Executives of Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines Inc. decided the time had come to make changes to the emblem bequeathed to the company when it was bought from its American owners, the Walter N. Boysen Company of Oakland, California, in 1960.

The announcement was made yesterday at the Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF) center in Malagos, Baguio District, here where a ceremony marked the company's adoption of a 7-month-old eagle bred in captivity but which would in time be released to the wild.

"For so many years, Boysen has been associated with the eagle, but it was the American bald eagle. Today, on this occasion, we are adopting the Philippine eagle as our new company logo," said Boysen executive Johnson Ongking.

The Philippine eagle is one of the world's largest and noblest fliers. In Filipino it is called Haribon or Haring Ibon (King Bird).

"It's like the company's coming of age," said Ongking.

The change also conveys its commitment to helping save the threatened Philippine eagle and the environment, he said.

Name's origin

The company named the eagle Pin-Pin. It is the 21st Philippine eagle bred in captivity at the PEF center.

Explaining the name, Ongking said the company launched an in-house contest to come up with it. The winning entry was "Pinturang Pinoy," which was shortened to Pin-Pin.

The Philippine eagle is a threatened and protected species and estimates put its population at 1,000 (about 500 pairs). It is found in forests in Mindanao and the Visayas.

Tatit Quiblat, PEF communications officer, said protecting the Philippine eagle has become urgent because they die faster that they can reproduce.

Rare eggs

She said the eagle only lays one egg every two years.

"It's a fierce bird but it practices family planning," Quiblat said, adding that the bird also strictly practices monogamy.

An eagle has an average lifespan of 35 years but many birds are being killed at a young age by hunters, according to PEF executive director Dennis Salvador.

"In the hinterlands, you have a gun, and so you shoot. Sometimes, there's no reason behind it; they just shoot," he said. In already denuded areas, the birds prey on farm animals so they are targeted by the animal owners, he added.

Lessons

Salvador said the PEF keeps young eagles like Pin-Pin in a large cage in a forest conservation area.

The PEF plans to eventually release the birds to the wild.

But Salvador said they have learned lessons about releasing, particularly in the case of PEF-bred eagles.

In 2004, Vice President Noli de Castro adopted a PEF-bred eagle named Kabayan.

Kabayan was released into the forests of Mt. Apo in North Cotabato.

The eagle, said PEF executives, initially seemed uncomfortable in its new environment. When Kabayan finally flew, he perched on an electricity cable in the reservation of the Philippine National Oil Corp. and died after receiving a shock.

"The experience of Kabayan made us realize the eagle has to be trained and introduced to the same threats and situations. Pin-Pin will be trained when he is ready to be released," Dominador Tadena, PEF deputy director for conservation and breeding, said.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The Career Executive Service Board (CESB) announces the validation/background investigation of the following candidates for CES eligibility.

No.	Name	Position	Agency
1	Abad, Al Mayo C.	Senior Attorney	SSS
2	Aguila, Analee G.	Division Chief	PPA
3	Andres, Jesse Hermogenes T.	Director IV/Chief of Staff	OVP
4	Andres, Joseph Philip T	Department Manager	GSIS
5	Ariz, David P.	Chief Inspector	BFP
6	Abenza-Fajardo, Zita Marie M.	Corporate Attorney III	TRANSCO
7	Balili-Guia, Maria Karla B.	Consultant	COMELEC
8	Bernal, Sheridal C.	Department Manager	DBP
9	Cabansag, Cezar Manuel A.	Planning Officer V	DENR
10	Campanilla, Cristino C.	Police Senior Supt.	PNP
11	Canapi, Joel Victor V.	Police Senior Supt.	PNP
12	Cervantes, Vilma B.	Bank Executive Officer III	DBP
13	Chavez, Vert T.	Police Superintendent	PNP
14	Concepcion, Angel T. Jr.	Vice President	GSIS
15	Cubos, Lyndon G.	Police Superintendent	PNP
16	Dakila Jr., Francisco G.	OIC, Group Head	BSP
17	Del Rosario, Ernesto R.	Director IV	COMELEC
18	Domingo, Abigail S.	Court Attorney IV	Court of Appeals
19	Ermitaño, Nolvienne C.	Technical Assistant	OP
20	Escalante, Francisco P.	Public Attorney II	PAO-DOJ
21	Flores, Isabelito P.	Executive Director	HOR
22	Gamolo, Ellenlelia HMV N.	Medical Specialist III	DOH
23	Garcia, Marianne P.	Department Manager III	DBP
24	Galchalian, Jesus T.	Police Superintendent	PNP
25	Gumban, Renato A.	Police Superintendent	PNP
26	Herrera, Peter Noel P.	Asst. Vice President	PDIC
27	Jacoba, Jerik Roderick V.	Attorney VI	OP
28	Javier, Lyn I.	Acting Deputy Director	BSP
29	Jimenez, James Arthur B.	Director III	COMELEC
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31	Ladion, Gemma A.	City Civil Registrar	Talisay, Province of Cebu
32	Lopez, Arthur A.	Power System Specialist	TRANSCO
33	Lou, Andrew E.	Division Manager	TRANSCO
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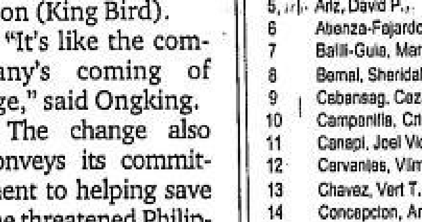
37	Pagayatan, Milagros M.	Asst. Vice President	SSS
38	Pizarro, Renato G.	Executive Director	BSP
39	Quiraiman, Noel E.	Division Chief	NEDA
40	Ragua, Antonina DP.	Branch Head	SSS
41	Rodriguez, Joanna V.	Assistant Secretary	PMS
42	Salvamante, Arturo C.	Corporate Staff Officer	TRANSCO
43	Suansing Jr. Horacio P.	District Collector	BOC
44	Tamayo, Regilito L.	Chief Treasury Operations Officer II	BOT
45	Torralba, Ma. Carla Lucia M.	PHRMO	Prov'l. Gov't of Nueva Vizcaya
46	Vano Jr., Juanito B.	Police Senior Supt.	PNP
47	Villorente, Denis F.	Director IV	DOST
48	Vivit, Josalito A.	Senior Attorney	SSS
49	Wong, Reynaldo O.	Director III	PHSA

Please forward all information, feedback or report on or before September 3, 2007 to the Office of the Executive Director, CESB, No. 3 Marcelino Street, Holy Spirit Drive, Diliman, QC; or e-mail to erad@cesboard.gov.ph, or fax to 951-4983 or 951-3306.

All information received by the CESB shall be considered with STRICT CONFIDENTIALITY.

(Sgd.) **MA. ANTHONETTE VELASCO-ALLONES**
Executive Director

(PDI - Aug. 26, 2007)



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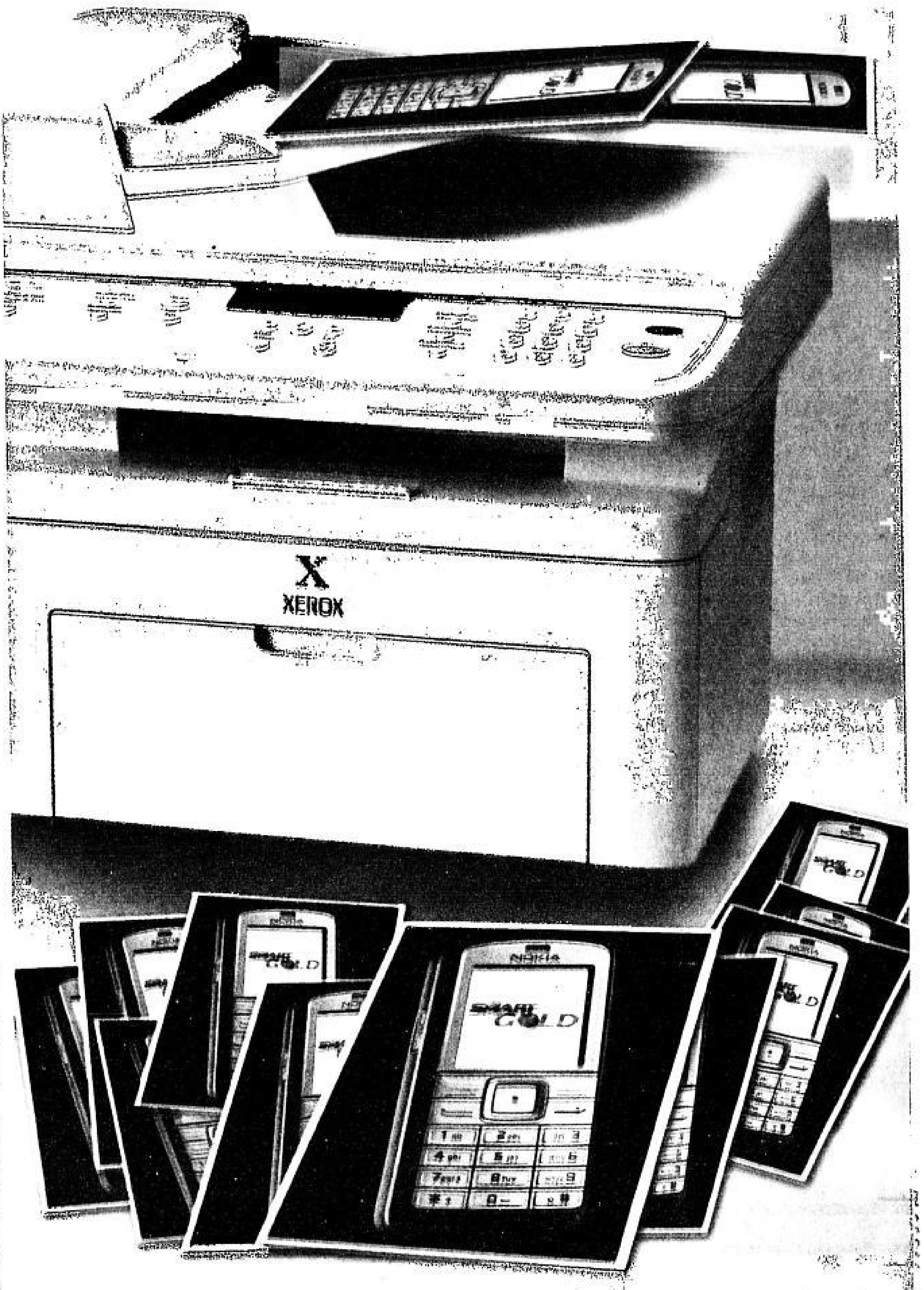

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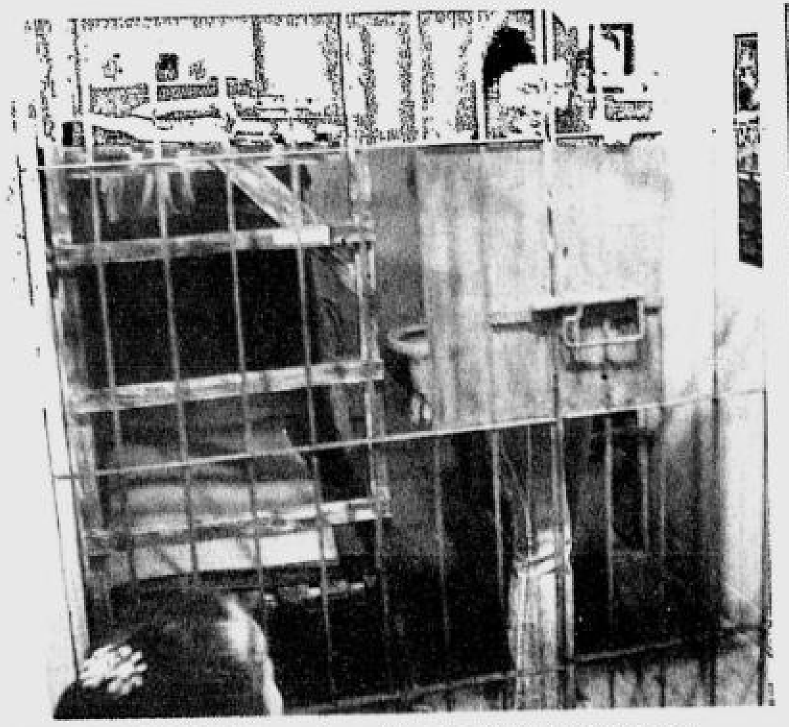
Museum shows youth the horrors of martial law

From page A1

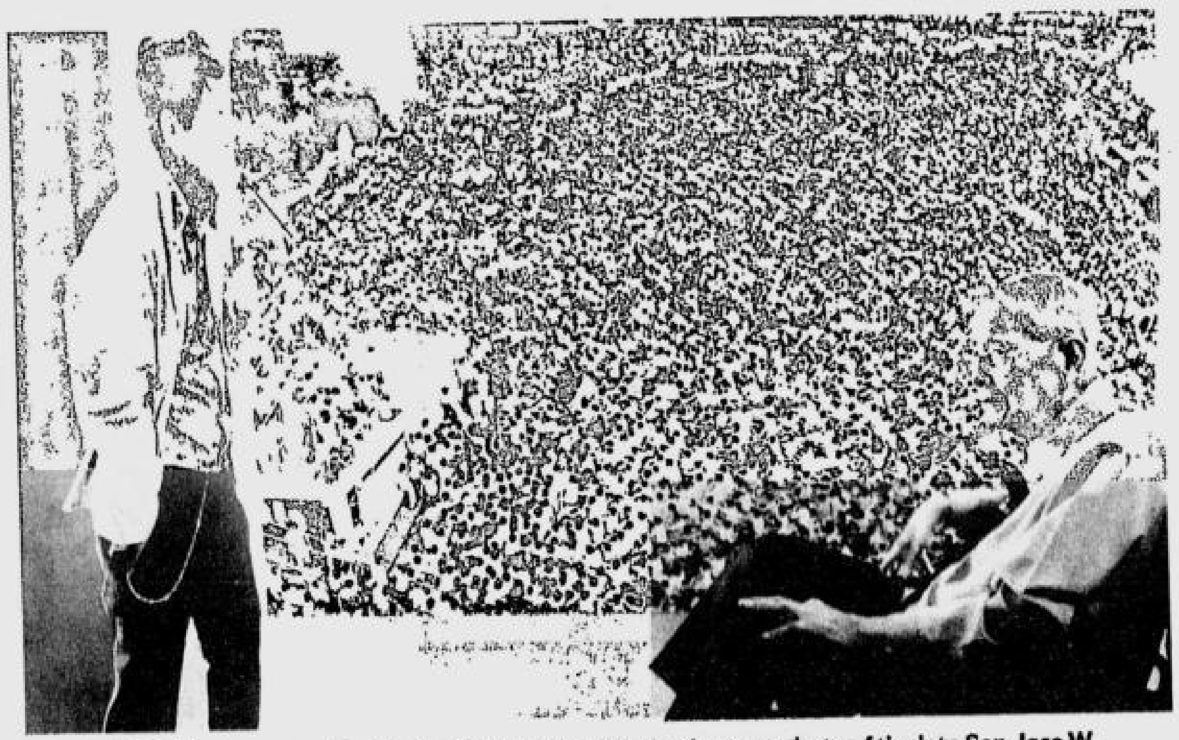
martial law? What will you do so that it won't happen again?" she said.

The Bantayog ng mga Bayani Foundation opened the museum to complement the Bantayog Memorial, a soaring 45-foot bronze monument, and the Wall of Remembrance that bears the names of over 100 heroes and martyrs who fought the Marcos dictatorship.

The mementos, documents, letters and other memorabilia on display span the period from 1965, when Ferdinand Marcos was sworn in as President, up to the glorious days of Edsa I in 1986.



MUSEUM VISITORS try out a replica of a prison cell where an activist priest was detained during martial rule. AUGUST DELA CRUZ



STARTLING: Former envoy Sedfrey Ordoñez view a life-sized cutout photo of the late Sen. Jose W. Diokno positioned as though speaking to a sea of people at a rally in Plaza Miranda in 1971. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

First Quarter Storm

Visitors to the gallery are greeted by a huge photograph of Marcos waving to a crowd, his family by his side, during his 1965 oath-taking for his first term in office.

Next to the Marcos photo are startling, black-and-white images of dead bodies on the streets, supposedly the victims of a 1968 massacre, a street strewn with leaflets after the May 1, 1971 shooting of protesters, and a flyer comparing Marcos with Hitler.

Next to the gallery stands an almost life-size cutout of opposition leader Jose Diokno speaking before an enlarged photo of a sea of people—recreating the mammoth rally in Plaza Miranda in 1971.

There are more photos of student activism during the "First Quarter Storm."

The son remembers

"I remember asking my dad if I could join these rallies," Sen. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, son of the late opposition leader Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr., quipped after seeing one of the pictures. "He said, 'You're too young.'"

As Aquino moved to a shelf in a corner, he let out a laugh after reading a reproduction of the typewritten Philippine Constabulary (PC) list of the 90 or so names—the first people to be picked up after martial law was declared.

"He (Ninoy) was the first in the Order of Battle," Aquino said, chuckling at his discovery.

There is a TV set on top of the shelf which earlier played a video documentary on martial law that featured the all-too familiar interview with Ninoy in the United States.

Today's revolution

In the same shelf is the Sept. 23, 1972 issue of the Manila Chronicle, which never hit the streets because newspaper companies had been padlocked that same day. Underneath are the books written by Marcos, "The Democratic Revolution," and "Today's Revolution: Democracy."

On a wall, beyond the shelf, are collages of photos depicting massacres and "hamletting" (the military's practice of displacing residents and holding them literally under the gun for days on end), an illustration of the forms of torture, and a large Philippine map, dotted with tiny white paper flags to indicate the name and area where an activist was killed.

"They created it realistically and the linkages are very impressive. How they were able to recreate the atmosphere of those dark days is simply fantastic," said Sedfrey Ordoñez, lawyer for the detained Ninoy during martial law. Although wheelchair-bound, he was given a tour of the museum.

"One does not need to speak so much in order to bring the young people here. The place will speak for itself. It's very impressive," he added.

Remembering Fr. Jerry

But the most touching part of the museum seems to be the shelf containing the memorabilia of activist Fr. Jerry Aquino. It displays his letters written on a yellow pad or scrap of bond paper, a poem scribbled in a notebook, as well as poetry books by Jose F. Lacaba and Rogelio Mangahas.

Beside the shelf is a replica of Father Jerry's prison cell. The activist priest was detained for a year at a PC stockade in Bontoc, Mt. Province in the 1980s, and later at Camp Bagong Diwa in Taguig for speaking out on the excesses of the Marcos regime. He was killed in a vehicular accident a year after his release.

The sight of the prison cell evoked memories for Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Satur Ocampo and other activists.

"It looks a lot like the MSU (military security unit) isolation room in Fort Bonifacio where I was thrown after we went on a hunger strike in Camp Bagong Diwa," said Ocampo, himself a political prisoner during martial law. "We were isolated for five months. And we were always padlocked. I'd do the stationary jogging there and everything else."

Tanks and people power

Past the cell, on the wall, are reproductions of paintings, posters, underground publications, and a blown-up photo of protestors marching under a rain of confetti on Ayala Avenue in Makati City at the height of protests against the Marcos regime.

"We read about this only in textbooks," said Robert de Angelo Bolinas, 16, a junior at the Philippine Science High School. "Here you can see how it affected so many people, how it inspired our artists in their works ... It really changed people in a big way."

The tour around the museum ends with a showcase of the heady days of the February 1986 revolt that toppled Marcos. There is a small, wooden replica of a military tank, the size of a small car, set against the backdrop of a mass of protesters on Edsa.

"The tank represents the Marcos dictatorship. The people, they are those who fought. While there were leaders, it's the people who ultimately made history," said Candy Yuzon-Yee, who worked with 11 fellow women activists to research, gather and collate materials for the museum.

Work in progress

By Malay and the other activists' reckoning, the memorabilia are far from complete, and the museum is a "work in progress."

"We are appealing to people to donate [any memorabilia] so lessons can be learned, and stories can be shared, instead of letting these objects decay in closets," Malay said.

The Bantayog Museum also hopes to set up a "memory bank," a place to keep memories, stories and experiences of ordinary people during martial law, she said.

"We hope that it will come to be regarded as a center of our common struggle, a meeting ground," Malay said. "We don't want closure. It's not behind us. It's still with us. We need to learn lessons; we need to learn what it is that breeds repression and how we are going to fight for a better life."

Saan ka ba nakatira?
- Tony Meloto, Gawad Kalinga
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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, August 26, 2007
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 66:18-21

All the nations into one.

The Lord says this, "Now I am going to gather the nations of every tongue, and they will witness my glory, for I will perform a wonderful thing among them. Then I will send some of their survivors to the nations—Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moscheck, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan-to the distant islands where no one has ever heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. They will bring your brothers from all the nations as an offering to Yahweh on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on camels to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says Yahweh, just as the Israelites bring oblations in clean vessels to the house of Yahweh. Then I will choose priests and Levites even from them, says Yahweh."

2nd Reading: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Those whom the Lord loves, he disciplines.

Do not forget the comforting words that Wisdom addresses to you as children: My son, pay attention when the Lord corrects you and do not be discouraged when he punishes you. For the Lord corrects those he loves and chastises everyone he accepts as a son.

What you endure is in order to correct you. God treats you like sons and what son is not corrected by his father? All correction is painful at the moment, rather than pleasant; later it brings the fruit of peace, that is, holiness to those who have been trained by it.

Lift up, then, your drooping hands, and strengthen your trembling knees; make level the ways for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but healed.

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

They will recline at table in the kingdom of God.

Jesus went through towns and villages teaching and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, is it true that few people will be saved?"

And Jesus answered, "Do your best to enter by the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you will stand outside; then you will knock at the door calling: 'Lord, open to us.' But he will say to you: 'I do not know where you come from.'

"Then you will say: 'We ate and drank with you and you taught in our streets!' But he will reply: 'I don't know where you come from. Away from me all you workers of evil.'

"You will weep and grind your teeth when you see Abraham and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves left outside. Others will sit at table in the kingdom of God, people coming from east and west, from north and south. Some who are among the last will be the first, and others who were first will be last!"

Commentary

Isaiah sings of the gathering of the nations and of every language, and sends messengers to the far coastlands so that all may hear and see the glory of the Lord God—from the greatest who travel in chariots to the least who come on mules and in carts or on foot. And all will be gathered together to worship God. God's hope and prayer is that all the nations and peoples of the world will be united-that is the worship that God wants.

Paul is writing to his people who are experiencing hardships because persecution is mounting against Christians. Discipline is the school for disciples—becoming like our master, the poor man, the crucified one, obedient to God and so rejected by many and eventually murdered. Yet God attests to this discipline and practice and raises Jesus to life. Jesus goes his way calling people to come after him through a narrow way—the gate of compassion, sharing with the poor (remember Lazarus/Dives and all that happens at the gates—the widow of Naim). It is not being in and eating in the company of Jesus that will necessarily make us true disciples but whether or not we serve the least and follow humbly after our Lord.

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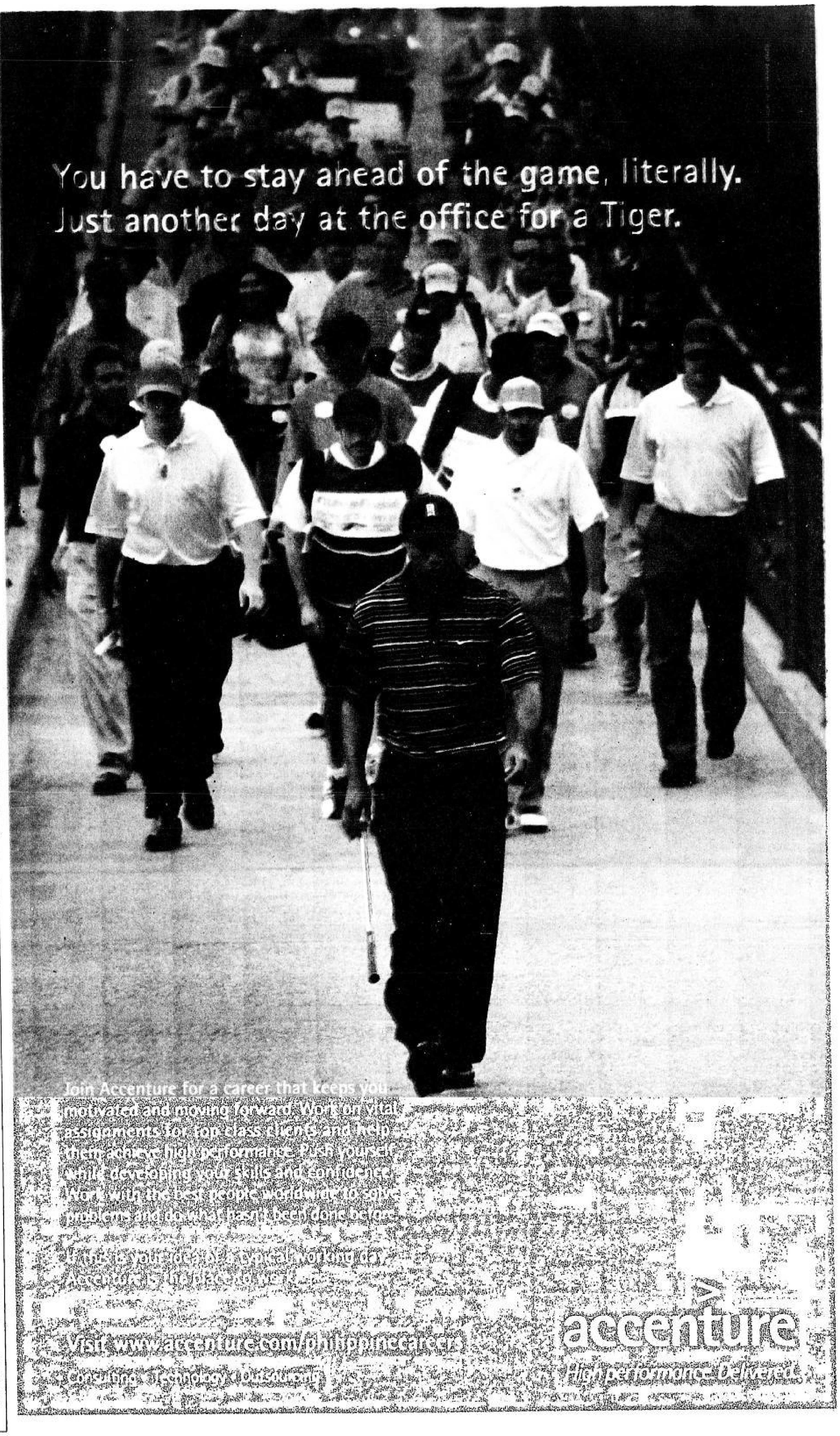
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Gov Ed's dev't plan off to good start with quarry funds pouring in

From page A1

lections in the quarrying operation was simple—he just implemented the ordinance governing the system.

He also replaced the people manning the collection outposts, who were casual workers with terms that coincided with the former governor's.

The collection system, he said, was simple if done properly. Quarry operators will only need to buy official receipts at the provincial treasurer's office so that the province would have a record of how much ash was actually bought.

Auditing Lapid later

Despite the obvious disparity with the former administration's quarry funds, Panlilio stressed that the proper collection of the funds to bankroll the delivery of basic services to the Kapampangans is the priority. They will then have to do an audit of the former governor's collections to find out what happened to the quarry funds.

Apart from the quarry funds, which Panlilio said will need to be realigned to be used for the delivery of basic services, the province of Pampanga will also bank on its own local tax revenues. Panlilio said that the province's internal revenue allotment had recently increased in 2006-2007 fiscal year.

Development agenda

Panlilio is also planning to tap the provincial development fund, or the allocated 20 percent of the annual investment plan, to finance his development agenda for Pampanga. Some P136 million of this development fund had remained intact and was not used by the former governor for its specific purpose after failing to convene the development council during his term. Panlilio, for his part, had convened the development council twice.

The priest-turned-governor will need not only full coffers but all the outside help he can get to carry out his development plans to discourage the poor from taking up jueteng.

War on jueteng

Panlilio recently told INQUIRER editors and reporters that in his first 100 days, he plans to repair and upgrade 10 public hospitals which are directly under his office. The hospitals are mostly dilapidated and are either deficient or functioning without medicines, X-ray machines, proper ventilation and even basic medical equipment such as stethoscopes.

Panlilio said repairing public hospitals is aimed basically to take care of the poorer sector of Pampanga. Delivering basic public services to the poor, he said, is a preparation to the war against jueteng.

"So before doing that [stopping jueteng], we have to have a strong message to the people ... that we are taking care of the poor. One way is to make better hospitals," said Panlillio.

Panlilio said he would also try to link up the poor to alternative jobs in Pampanga as a way of discouraging people from the illegal numbers game.

He said they have already established links with business locators in Pampanga so they can refer former jueteng workers to these available jobs.

For those who may want to take up a business instead, Panlilio said, links with the Land Bank of the Philippines are also available at the provincial office for those who may not have enough money to start their own enterprises.

Bigger tourist markets

To take advantage of the increase in the traffic of people expected in Pampanga due to the opening of the Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (or the Clark International Airport), Panlilio's plans also include opening up Pampanga to a bigger international and local tourist market.

They are opening up a tourism office, he said, to map out destination loops in Pampanga for tourists coming in from either the Clark Airport or the North Luzon Expressway (NLEx).

For example, he said, tourists who would exit the NLEx via San Simon could have a boat ride from Arayat to Manila Bay. These tourists may take a detour to Macabebe to view how locals manufacture *tabang talangka* (canned crab fat). Tourists may also opt to detour to Sto. Tomas to see how bricks, or batteries, or even coffins are made.

Zarzuela revival

The provincial government, he said, is also eyeing to boost the local zarzuela as cultural shows for tourist viewing. The zarzuela, a Spanish operetta which alternates between spoken and sung scenes, is now being reborn in Pampanga through the Artistang Sta. Rita Foundation or the Arti Sta.Rita.

No cut in US military aid

From page A1

equipment for our soldiers, thereby hastening the defeat of the insurgents and the destruction of terrorists," Torres told the INQUIRER.

The Army is the biggest among the three services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Late last month, it was reported that the US State Department had proposed to the US Congress a sharp cut in aid to the Philippine military and police in the light of their alleged involvement in extrajudicial killings in the country.

It reportedly requested the US Congress to cut aid to the AFP, specifically, on the Foreign Military Financing (FMF) for procurement of military equipment from the US from nearly $30 million last year to only $11 million in fiscal year 2008 starting this September, and the International Military Exchange Training (IMET) program for sending and training AFP officers in the US from $2.9 million to $1.5 million.

Also reportedly included in the request is a slash on the International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE) assistance program to the Philippine National Police from almost $2 million to $1.1 million for the same period.

The report was posted on the website of the ABS-CBN television network and carried by its news channel ANC. The report came from its North American News Bureau which based the story on a US State Department report.

'False' report

Militants had welcomed the reported US cut in military assistance which they said was being used by the Philippine military and police forces to kill activists and to commit human rights abuses.

But to Malacañang's relief, the report turned out to be false. Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo officially denied the report.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita had warned that if the aid reduction were true, it would affect the antiterror efforts of the Arroyo administration.

The US Embassy in Manila called the report "premature and misleading," saying the US Congress has yet to pass the proposed 2008 federal budget, including foreign aid appropriations.

Asked about possible US cuts to its military aid to the Philippines, Reyes said that "if anything, we recommend that we expand the assistance and the support."

"We are prepared to provide any assistance possible because we think a safe and secured Asian region, certainly the Philippines is part of this, is in the best interests of everyone," Reyes added.

The US government had poured nearly $400 million in military assistance to the Philippines, according to the militant group Bayan Muna, citing reports from the Library of the US Congress-Federal Research Division on the Philippines.

For 2006, the proposal was $23 million while it was not specified for 2007.

Bipartisan delegation

IN FAR ZAMBOANGA: Five bipartisan members of the US Congress from different states visiting Zamboanga City on Saturday are given a briefing by Mayor Çelso Lobregat (extreme right). The delegation is headed by Texas Rep. Silvestre Reyes (4th from left), chair of the permanent select committee on intelligence and the armed services committee. Also in photo are US Reps. Heather Wilson, Greg Meeks and Dutch Ruppersberger. Except for Meeks who is a Democrat, the other four are all Republicans. AFP

Reyes, chair of the permanent select committee on intelligence and armed services committee, led four other members of the US Congress during his visit here.

The bipartisan delegation also included New Jersey Rep. Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, member of the appropriations committee and the select intelligence oversight panel; New Mexico Rep. Heather Wilson of the committee on energy and the intelligence committee; New York Rep. Gregory W. Meeks of the financial services and international relations committees; and Maryland Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, of the appropriations and intelligence committees.

Except for Meeks, who is a Democrat, the other members of the team are Republicans allied with US President George W. Bush.

"This is an opportunity for my colleagues and myself to travel to the Philippines to see, first hand, the close cooperation between our two countries on several fronts," he said.

Meeks praised Philippine-US links, saying the visit showed that "we have much more in common that brings us together."

No to US bases

Reyes also denied reports about plans to reopen US military bases in the country.

"There is no move to reopen US bases in the Philippines," he said.

Following their visit here, the US congressmen said they would seek more US aid to bolster the Philippines in its fight against terror groups.

The poorly equipped Philippine military has been hoping to receive more assistance from the US in the face of increased conflict with Muslim extremists.

The US solons also met with Filipino military commanders and local officials and were briefed on the security situation in the region where Filipino soldiers are still in pursuit of the Abu Sayyaf rebels.

The arrival of the American legislators comes just four days after a bomb, believed planted by the Abu Sayyaf Group, exploded in a square here, injuring 14 people.

The Abu Sayyaf has been linked by both the US and Philippine intelligence agencies to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida. The group has been blamed for the worst terrorist attacks in the country and the July 10 ambush-slaying of 14 Marines, of which 10 were beheaded.

The US delegation also expressed sympathy for the scores of soldiers who have been killed in recent weeks in an upsurge of fighting with the Abu Sayyaf and their allies in the island provinces of Jolo and Basilan.

At least 57 government troops have been killed since the fighting began.

Military solution not enough

AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Hermogenes Esperon said yesterday that the ongoing military offensives in Basilan and Sulu are only a small component of the government's total approach to eliminate the Muslim and communist insurgency by 2010.

Interviewed by Vice President Noli de Castro on the latter's radio program, "Para Sa Iyo Bayan," Esperon acknowledged that a military solution would not be enough to give lasting peace in Mindanao.

"*Hindi naman po puwede na military solution lamang po ang ilalagay natin sa insurgency. In fact, iyong military component ng solution sa insurgency ay napakaliit kumpara sa kabuuang solusyon o wholistic solution* (It's not enough that we employ only a military solution to the insurgency. In fact, the military component of the solution to the insurgency is very small compared to the total solution or wholistic solution)," Esperon told De Castro.

Esperon noted that on Jan. 4 this year, President Macapagal-Arroyo ordered state security forces to defeat the communist insurgency by 2010, to defeat the Abu Sayyaf as soon as possible, and to contain the Muslim secessionist movement.

The President reiterated her deadline during the recent command conference in Zamboanga City, but added the infusion of the development component in the overall solution to the insurgency problem.

Media play

Esperon said the military operations in Basilan and Jolo were being given prominence by the media simply because of the recent terroristic activities by the Abu Sayyaf, including the beheadings of the 10 Marine soldiers, and the heavy casualties incurred by government troops.

Four Marine brigades have been deployed to Sulu and Basilan to hunt down and destroy the Abu Sayyaf. These include four Marine battalions, three Army infantry battalions, one Scout Ranger battalion, one Special Forces battalion and one Light Reaction battalion.

But in other parts of the country affected by the communist insurgents, he said, a "humanitarian" offensive or development should prevail over military operations.

Civil-military operatives

Esperon said that aside from the combat operations, the President had also ordered the deployment of more engineering battalions in Zamboanga, Sulu and Basilan to construct circumferential roads.

He said that civil-military operations were also going on in other parts of insurgency-affected barangays.

"*Higit na mas malaking effort ang development to give a lasting solution to the insurgency problem para wala na talagang babangong insurgency na bunga ng ideolohiya at kahirapan* (Development is a bigger effort to give a lasting solution to the insurgency problem so that there will be no more insurgency based on ideology that will crop up), he stressed. ***With reports from Cynthia D. Balana and AFP***

PNP briefs US solons on killings

THE PNP GAVE A BRIEFING TO members of the US Congress and officials of the US Embassy on the progress of the investigations of extrajudicial killings in the country.

In his briefing, Director Jefferson Soriano, chief of the PNP's Task Force Usig which was tasked to investigate the killings of activists and journalists, said most of the killings were borne out of personal motives like personal grudges, land disputes, and business rivalry, and not politically motivated.

Nonetheless, Soriano assured the US officials that all unsolved cases in the country were being closely investigated.

In a statement, Soriano said the US officials "expressed satisfaction for the swift action and transparency of the PNP in handling the slay cases, noting the successful prosecution of persons behind some of these murders."

Also present were Chargé d'Affaires Paul W. Jones and other US Embassy officials Thomas Brown and Mario Fernandez.

PNP officials present were Senior Supt. Lina Sarmiento, chief of the PNP's Human Rights Affairs Office (HRAO).

Cardinal Sin back where he's endlessly ...

From page A1

leader, patriot and Church dignitary" who "contributed much in the restoration of democracy to the Filipino people."

No simple addition

The statue is no simple addition to already existing structures of Sin in his hometown.

To begin with, it's the first sculpture of the cardinal to be erected in the town, according to Ronald Castrillo. Most of his images are in Manila, the latest of which is the Napoleon Abueva-made brass statue standing at the entrance of the Cardinal Sin Village in Punta, Sta. Ana.

For the townsfolk, the Castrillo brothers' creation is the closest they can get to a remnant of New Washington's beloved and dearly missed son, according to Dr. Ramon Sin, the cardinal's younger brother.

"They really miss him so much," he told the INQUIRER in an interview.

The younger Sin said townmates would have preferred that the cardinal were buried in the town. But church tradition and protocol reserved him a slot at the crypt beneath the Manila Cathedral.

The statue doesn't show the realism of a wax figure. Instead, it beams with the majesty of brass, naturally reinforced by the stature and arresting presence of Sin when he was still alive.

Patterned after one of his famous images, the bust shows the late cardinal in full vestment. His left hand holds his bishop's staff, his right hand raised as if blessing the church before him, a structure he had rebuilt in 1984.

Cardinal's 'smile'

The Castrillo brothers, builders of around 20 statues at Eternal Garden memorial parks in Laguna and Batangas, paid particular attention to the cardinal's "smile."

"He had quite a serious smile and it was not easy to depict," he said.

Anybody who really knew Sin, of course, knew that the idea of a "serious smile" could not pass even as an oxymoronic reference to him. Besides his marriage of spiritual guidance and political leadership, the man was famous for his joke and hearty appetite.

This knowledge of the "personal" Sin is not lost on the people of New Washington, at least, to those who are too old to forget, according to his brother Ramon. They know him, not in book and newspaper accounts, but in personal encounters that have left deep impressions about the man.

"In our town, he's known to many people as simply Ame," he said, referring to his late brother's childhood nickname.

Sorely missed

Ramon said Sin had been sorely missed since he was ordained priest in 1954, an alternately joyous and downcast event—the former in the sense that any new addition to God's servants was most welcome to the deeply religious town of New Washington, the latter on the idea that its people would also have to part with their beloved son.

Since acquiring his vestments, Sin had been out on religious missions, becoming bishop in 1967, and then moving to the Archdiocese of Manila—the country's premier diocese—in March 1974.

"Our townsfolk had accepted the fact that he had to be away most of the time, but they longed for his visit," Ramon said.

Fortunately for the people he had physically left behind, Sin seemed to have the uncanny ability to be all over the place.

Despite the great distance between Manila and Aklan, the cardinal took every opportunity in his hectic schedule to drop by for a visit in his hometown, his brother recalled.

Deeply personal

Visits were never confined to formal gatherings and ceremonies akin to the atmosphere of a returning politician. They were deeply personal, often having the cardinal receive relatives, friends and ordinary folks at the two-story ancestral home near the plaza.

And people knew how to touch the cardinal's heart—they did so through his belly.

Ramon said visitors often brought native chicken and eggs, seashells, crabs and popular catches such as "tamilok" (white worms picked from mangroves and are eaten raw) and "mangla" (white shrimps that come out usually after a rain in the town).

These encounters between Sin and his people were often obscured in the popular memory by his so-called "feats"—his role in the restoration of democracy in 1986 and his fight for freedom and character renewal from the very beginning.

Grateful people

But not to New Washington's folks, like the many nameless priests he had sponsored and still many other ordinary people he had helped get by Aklan's tough life, according to Ramon.

"To this day, I'm occasionally approached by people I do not know," he said. "Out of the blue, they say they would like to thank the cardinal for the help he had extended to them."

Many of these people came by the busloads in Manila to visit Sin at his wake at the Manila Cathedral two years ago. Many others would have loved to come, but were too old, too weak, or too poor to make the long trip.

These same people, according to Ramon, are awaiting the formal unveiling of cardinal's towering figure at the end of the month. In a manner of speaking, their collective memory of him will breathe life into the statue of Sin.

Partition of Malampaya gas proceeds raises questions

By Redempto D. Anda
Inquirer Southern Luzon

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—MALACAÑANG and Palawan provincial officials have agreed in principle to jointly utilize some P12 billion in royalties from the Malampaya natural gas project off the province which are currently frozen due to a pending dispute in the Supreme Court over its ownership.

But the agreement immediately drew howls of protest from critics over what they perceive to be the conversion of the country's income from natural gas into a "pork barrel" for legislators.

After about a month of secret negotiations between Palawan officials and Malacañang, sources told the INQUIRER President Macapagal-Arroyo had signed an executive order detailing the manner the money would be spent.

The EO, which is expected to be issued in the next few days, allocates P2 billion each to projects identified by the two congressmen from Palawan in their respective districts and another P2 billion to projects identified by the provincial government.

Another P6 billion will be utilized by the national government to fund major infrastructure projects in Palawan, including big-ticket items.

"It is signed, sealed and ready to be delivered," a source privy to the negotiations told the INQUIRER.

The source said Malacañang originally wanted to hold the ceremonial signing of the EO this week but it was postponed "because there were some apparent kinks in the division of appropriations."

Provincial Information Officer Rolando Bonoan confirmed reports there had been discussions among key Palawan political leaders to review the position of the province with respect to the legal dispute pending in the Supreme Court.

The national government has questioned before the high court Palawan's claim to 40 percent of the royalties paid by the Shell-SPEX-led consortium which operates the natural gas pipeline project north of the province.

But Kilusan Love Malampaya (KLM) spokesperson, lawyer Joselito Alisuag, warned both Malacañang and the provincial government that the agreement "violates the relevant provisions of the Local Government Code pertaining to the distribution of benefits to local government units."

Alisuag said that under the code, any share from Malampaya's proceeds should be distributed to the provincial government, the municipality where the natural gas was found, and the barangay where it was actually located.

"There is no legal basis for them to treat this money as pork barrel," Alisuag said.

De los Reyes burial

CAMILLE THERESE DE LOS REYES, WHO died on Aug. 23 at the age of 7, will be interred today at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City, after the 2 p.m. Mass at the Christ the King Church funeral chapels in Greenmeadows, Quezon City.

She is survived by her parents, Milo and Liza de los Reyes, and other relatives.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
BY STRADCOM CORPORATION

Pursuant to LTO Memorandum Circular Number RIB-2007-854, dated July 16, 2007, we announce that as of the date herein, only the following Compulsory Third Party Liability (CTPL) Insurance Providers are duly interconnected with the Certificate of Cover Verification Facility (COCVF) of the LTO IT Project's System.

The Motoring Public is hereby advised that **ONLY** CTPL-COC Policies issued by these Insurance Providers connected to the COCVF will be accepted and processed at all LTO sites nationwide for motor vehicle registrations.

The Insurance Providers duly interconnected to the COCVF are:
(Partial List as of August 25, 2007)

Asia United Insurance, Inc.
Bankers Assurance Corporation
BPI/IMS Insurance Corporation
Cibeles Insurance Corporation
Country Bankers Insurance Corporation
Empire Insurance Company
Equitable Insurance Corporation
First Nationwide Assurance Corporation
Generali Pilipinas Insurance Company, Inc.
Government Service Insurance System
Investors Assurance Corporation
MAA General Assurance Phils., Inc.
Malayan Insurance Company, Inc.
Manila Surety & Fidelity Company, Inc.
Mapfre Insular Insurance Corporation
Meridian Assurance Corporation
Metropolitan Insurance Company, Inc.
Phil. General Insurance Corporation
Philippine First Insurance Company, Inc.
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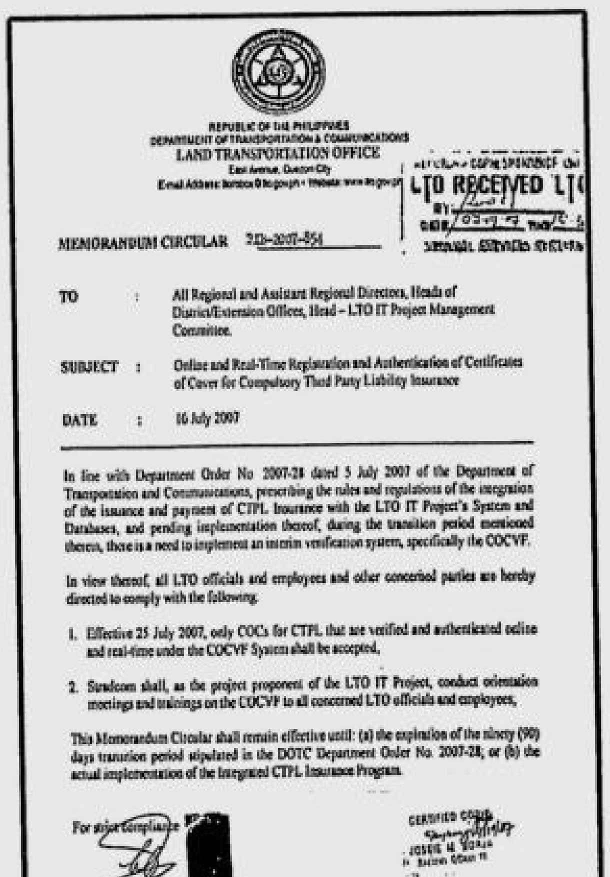

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City

LTO RECEIVED

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR RIB-2007-854

TO : All Regional and Assistant Regional Directors, Heads of District/Extension Offices, Head – LTO IT Project Management Committee.

SUBJECT : Online and Real-Time Registration and Authentication of Certificates of Cover for Compulsory Third Party Liability Insurance

DATE : 16 July 2007

In line with Department Order No 2007-28 dated 5 July 2007 of the Department of Transportation and Communications, prescribing the rules and regulations of the integration of the issuance and payment of CTPL Insurance with the LTO IT Project's System and Databases, and pending implementation thereof, during the transition period mentioned therein, there is a need to implement an interim verification system, specifically the COCVF.

In view thereof, all LTO officials and employees and other concerned parties are hereby directed to comply with the following:

1. Effective 25 July 2007, only COCs for CTPL that are verified and authenticated online and real-time under the COCVF System shall be accepted,

2. Stradcom shall, as the project proponent of the LTO IT Project, conduct orientation meetings and trainings on the COCVF to all concerned LTO officials and employees,

This Memorandum Circular shall remain effective until: (a) the expiration of the ninety (90) days transition period stipulated in the DOTC Department Order No. 2007-28; or (b) the actual implementation of the Integrated CTPL Insurance Program.

For strict compliance.

REYNALDO L BERROYA
Assistant Secretary

CERTIFIED COPY

As soon as more Insurance Providers duly interconnect with the COCVF, the above-specified list will be updated and published or posted at all Land Transportation Office sites nationwide.

***Insurance Providers may contact Ms. RHODA B. IPAC at 0918-9221655 or Ms. JENNIFER BALLADA-BUNCALAN at 0920-9041604 for your contractual, documentary and other requirements.

DISPELLING THE DARKNESS. The Loretero hut, chosen as the backdrop for a gaggle of VIPS from Manila led by President Arroyo (center) for the "switch-on" rites, fills up with light. But Loretero himself and other residents of Purok 3, Barangay Tawala, Panglao town in Bohol say they have had electricity since 2000. MALACAÑANG PHOTO

And then there was light... er, more light

From page A1

to drumbeat the President's energization target.

"The President wants all villages energized before her term expires," an official of the National Electrification Authority (NEA) explained while overseeing last-minute preparations for the symbolic switch-on.

Ms Arroyo herself admitted that the switch-on was only symbolic in her brief speech during the interaction in the area, located some 18 km from Tagbilaran City.

The symbolism was not lost to reporters who arrived early at the ceremonial site which is the residence of Emerencio Loretero, 31.

While the cameras flashed and onlookers, including some of the most prominent officials of the Arroyo administration, clapped their hands, the President flicked the switch which lighted up the Loretero home.

Good choice

Loretero, who lost his job last Feb. 10 when the dive shop he worked for closed down, said his house, made of bamboo and nipa, was built in 2000.

He also said he pays the Bohol Electric Cooperative (Boheco) I an average of P69 a month. His appliances included a refrigerator and a television set.

Loretero could not explain why his house was chosen for the ceremonial swith-on. He said he overheard someone say it was because his house was made of native materials.

Asked how he felt about the President's visit to his nipa hut, Loretero said, "I'm happy," while pumping the portable gas lamp which would light up his home until the President's arrival.

Panglao Mayor Benedicto Alcala said the President's advance party chose Loretero's house after it conducted an ocular inspection on Wednesday.

In the neighborhood

Alcala refused to confirm or deny that one of the reasons they chose Loretero's house was because it was located just a kilometer away from the Eskaya Beach Resort and Spa where the President would be spending the night.

A Boheco I official who refused to be quoted revealed that the electric cooperative's service area of 26 towns had been fully energized since 2000.

As of December 2006, Boheco I has been supplying electricity to some 100,871 households and 602 barangays including those in the islands.

The people of Purok 3 and Barangay Tawala, however, have reason to thank the President for the visit.

Ms Arroyo vowed to appropriate funds for the street-lighting project they requested during her two-hour stop in their neighborhood.

6 blind kids join Inquirer 'Read-Along,' listen to stories on Asian heroes

From page A1

police through dynamic leadership and effective innovations in crime control, drug rehabilitation and humane prison reform."

Chamlong was recognized for "his exemplary governorship of Bangkok and his fervent insistence that elections are the sole legitimate path to political power in Thailand."

'Disguise' in Braille

Eleven-year old Aguilar, a sixth grader at De La Salle Zobel in Alabang, read excerpts from "Torrents," her published compilation of poetry.

She read one of her poems, titled "Disguise," which had been translated into Braille. Copies of the poem in Braille were given to the six children from the Resources for the Blind Inc.

JUNIOR INQUIRER writer Ruth Navarra, who hosted the session, explained to the other children what Braille was and even passed around Aguilar's poem in Braille for the kids to see and feel.

The Braille system, named after its inventor, Louise Braille, is a tactile code of raised dots representing letters of the alphabet, used by persons with visual impairment. Works in Braille can be "read" by touching the letters.

BEAUTY AND BRAINS: Maria Therese Licaros, Bb. Pilipinas-Universe, a summa cum laude graduate and now UP law student reads about the heroic life of a Magsaysay Awardee. ROMY HOMILLADA

New experience

Asked how she felt when she found out that one of her poems would be translated into Braille, Aguilar gushed: "I was glad because I would like blind children to enjoy what I write."

Aguilar, who started writing poetry at the age of 5, said reading her poems to an audience was a new experience. "I'm quite shy. I was nervous at first, but I felt confident in the middle of the reading," she said.

A consistent honor student, Aguilar said she liked reading classics like Jane Eyre and works by Sharon Creech. "I read whatever is given to me," she said.

Her mother, Sonia, agreed: "She's a voracious reader. Books are her fuel."

Gratifying

Licaros, a summa cum laude graduate from the University of the Philippines with a degree in Broadcast Communication, described her experience of reading to the children as "gratifying."

"[I felt] pressured," she admitted with a laugh. "Kids are a difficult audience to please. They're very honest. It's really a challenge to maintain their attention. And because it's challenging, it's more gratifying."

Even veteran storyteller Rodriguez admitted that he, too, had difficulty reading his piece. "It's different from the other stories I've done before," he said. Nevertheless, he came up with an energetic segment in his fourth stint as guest reader.

At the end of the program, children were given copies of Aguilar's "Torrents" as well as other books donated by the Standard Chartered Bank.

Other sponsors of yesterday's session included Krispy Kreme and the Soroptomist International of Eastwood City.

The INQUIRER Read-Along program, which aims to impart the love of reading to children aged 7 to 13, is held on the second and fourth Saturday of the month at the Inquirer main office on Chino Roces Ave. in Makati City.

Reading schedule

The next session will be on Sept. 8 and will feature Little Earth Angel Mikaela Abuan of the Sustainable Energy Development Program of the US Agency for International Development and US Department of Energy. Abuan will be reading "Kings of the Road," in line with the advocacy to promote the use of biofuels and in support of the Philippine Biofuels Act of 2006.

Interested parties may call Ellen Caparros or Girlie Refran at Tel. No. 897-8808, local 329. Those interested in donating books for the program may also send an e-mail to inquirer-readalong@inquirer.com.ph.

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OPINION

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Lackey

EDITORIAL

WE DO NOT KNOW IF RAUL GONZALEZ SPENDS time looking at the portraits of his predecessors. He should. His portfolio has been held by public servants, quite a few of whom took their positions seriously, and didn't view it as an opportunity to be a lackey; some viewed it as the summit of their legal careers or a stepping stone to the Supreme Court. Two, in particular, established the possibilities for integrity while holding office: Jose Abad Santos and Jose Yulo. For all time, we would have thought, but how mutable time has proven in terms of the institutional erosion Gonzalez represents.

Abad Santos in 1922 originally stayed above the fight between Governor-General Leonard Wood and Filipino politicians, until Wood told Abad Santos that it was a fight between Americans and Filipinos: at which point Abad Santos resigned saying if such a line was being drawn, he had no recourse but to side with his countrymen.

Reappointed under subsequent American governor-generals, and then under the Commonwealth, Abad Santos then took pains to resist political pressure, whether from legislators or even the President of the Philippines: he would not hire or fire on the basis of purely political considerations, and he would not file or drop cases for political convenience. He would go on to serve in the Supreme Court and become the foremost Filipino martyr of World War II.

Jose Yulo was offered the position of secretary of justice four times. Each time, he declined. When he finally did accept the position, as the inauguration of the Commonwealth loomed, he attached a condition. He accepted, he said, "But only on one condition: that the Department of Justice be detached from politics." Yulo would go on to become Speaker of the National Assembly, but he did so without wrecking the judiciary or leaving a reputation for partisanship while he held the justice portfolio. Two decades later, when President Ferdinand E. Marcos wanted to put together an impressive first Cabinet, he convinced the elderly Yulo to serve again, an appointment that conferred prestige on the administration.

We are used to Cabinet officers excusing every possible instance of petty politicking, on the grounds that they are merely "alter egos" of whoever happens to be president. But even the most obsessively political of our presidents (that is to say, all of them) put a premium on the justice portfolio as a flagship for their administrations. The present disreputable state of the position can be firmly traced to the present administration.

Raul Gonzalez takes what can only be described as a malicious pleasure in using his office for the partisan interests of his president. When the Senate expressed interest in pursuing allegations of wiretapping, Gonzalez said he'd start looking into the Aragoncillo spying case. He made a big to-do about asking the Americans for copies of court transcripts.

For what? The Americans investigated, then punished, one of their citizens, Leandro Aragoncillo, for leaking classified documents to his Filipino pals. Definitely a crime for an American. Is it a crime for a Filipino, under our jurisdiction? Only if we are still an American colony, with citizens and officials bound by an oath of loyalty to the United States of America.

Is there something about our government we don't know? Does Gonzalez serve two masters—and expect everyone else to be liable for punishment for crossing Gonzalez's apparent boss, Uncle Sam?

Gonzalez would be the first to insist he serves no master but our Republic—what he really wants to do, as he told the press, is warn the Senate it can expect "tit for tat" when it comes to investigations. He mentioned the Kuratong Baleleng case, too: suggesting his interpretation of justice is as crude as it gets. Anything and everything can be papered over, forgotten, dismissed, so long as President Macapagal-Arroyo is left alone. Embarrass the President, and the full weight of the justice department will lean on whoever dares to fight with the Palace.

So by all means, let him hide behind the President's skirt, and let him sneer that he is only her alter ego. It only goes to show the President is foursquare behind Gonzalez: and that he is not the secretary of justice, but a crude lackey, a disgrace.

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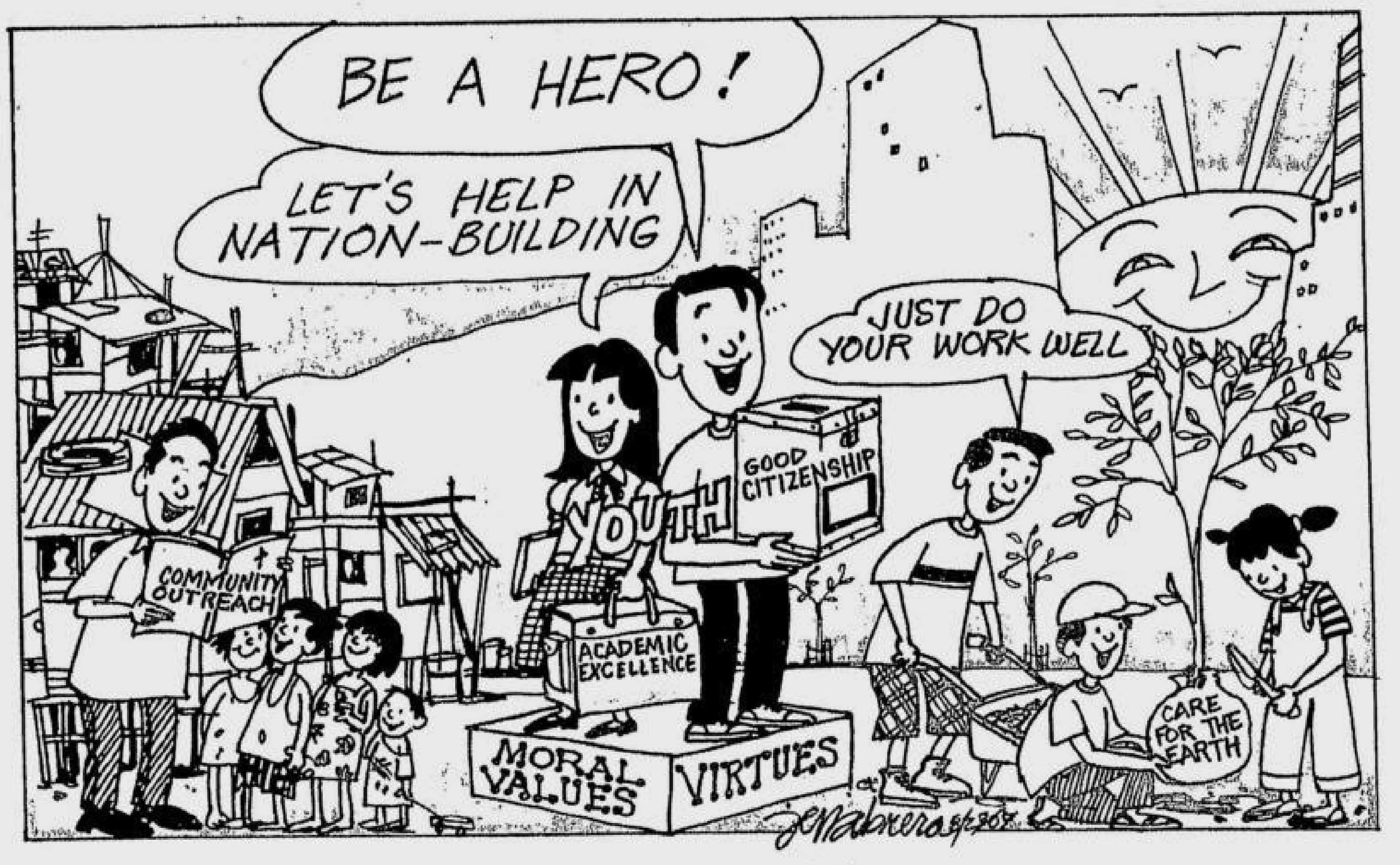


The massacre of the cars

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THIS INCIDENT HAPPENED MORE THAN two weeks ago, but I cannot let it pass without comment. Its stupidity is timeless and should not be simply ignored.

I cannot imagine anything more idiotic than the deliberate destruction, reportedly on orders of President Macapagal-Arroyo, of 18 brand-new motor vehicles on Aug. 16 on the ground that they had been smuggled into the country and should be destroyed to teach the smugglers a lesson.

This was done at a public exhibition to which the President was invited but did not attend, perhaps because of a reluctance to be identified with that asinine *pakulo*. It revolted many incredulous people, including those who watched the massacre of the cars on television or saw the gruesome pictures front-paged in the newspapers as still another evidence of the senseless waste of valuable properties that could have been put to needed public use.

According to Finance Secretary Margarito Teves, the show cost the government an estimated P30 million in auction proceeds and P10 million in taxes, but "we feel that the deterrent effect on smuggling, the benefit that will be generated by our domestic industry, and the signal effect that we want to convey that we are serious about addressing this smuggling issue will outweigh the initial effects of the loss in revenue."

The waived P40 million could have been spent for useful projects like the construction of public school buildings, the purchase of medicines for the poor, and the removal of the enormous garbage that clogged the drainage systems and flooded many places in Luzon last week. The thousands of persons devastated by the recent typhoons could have benefited considerably from the money squandered by an arrogant administration with a surfeit of stupidity and little common sense.

The slaughter of the vehicles was in effect a mindless substitute for the failure of the customs authorities to strictly enforce the laws against snuggling, which cost the government more than the P40 million squandered to excuse their inefficiency, laxity or, more likely, their notorious corruption.

Even if the wrecked cars were mere attractive shells that had no motors and little value as Ramon Tulfo claimed in his column, they nevertheless cost more than the junk to which they had been reduced by the ruthless backhoes. If it is true that GMA had really ordered their destruction, her absence from the public execution of the blameless cars must have been due to a repentant retreat from her earlier decision.

And why, for the love of Mike, punish the cars instead of the persons who had smuggled them? They are the ones who should have been destroyed and not the smuggled vehicles, which were only the subjects of the butchery. The cars could be confiscated and even destroyed summarily but only if they were pernicious *per se* like prohibited drugs or pornographic materials. They were at best only nuisances *per accidens* that could be abated only with judicial permission.

By destruction of the smugglers, I do not mean that they should be crushed to death like the innocent cars that were guillotined like heinous criminals. It's the smugglers who should have been punished for their insufferable guilt in accordance with the law and to its full extent.

The administration says that if the cars had been sold at public auction the very persons who smuggled them would have been the highest bidders. That is another foolish pretext. To begin with, why allow them to participate in the sale, considering their suspicious tax evasion record? Are we to believe that the Finance authorities do not know who these smugglers are when they are common knowledge to even ordinary private but powerless observers?

Equally silly is the pretended apprehension that these smugglers could participate in the auctions through paid but innocent-looking proxies. This will happen only if the culprits, who should be known to the authorities, will nevertheless be allowed to participate in the charade for the usual clandestine considerations.

Assuming for the sake of argument that Secretary Teves was motivated by the best of honest intentions in destroying the 18 smuggled cars, why was this draconian measure not applied to all the smuggled cars without exception? Nineteen other smuggled cars, all of them luxury vehicles, were spared from the wrecking machines that demolished the less costly vehicles.

Was it because the exempted cars had an average cost of P18 million or a total value of P342 million? That stupid purpose of teaching the smugglers a lesson should also have applied to the fabulously priced Ferrari, the two Porsches, the BMW, the Cadillac and the Lamborghini, unless they had already been secretly reserved for some Privileged Persons.

The Arroyo administration has recklessly misspent millions of public funds for worthless purposes like the inept critique of the Constitution by a study group extravagantly paid with the people's money to justify the flawed initiative. The junking of the smuggled cars to scrap metal takes the cake, or better still, the poison. It again proves the insensitiveness of the spendthrift Arroyo administration in this desperate land of starving paupers.

Ordinary

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT A FARMER'S wife who had twin daughters. The first one was named "Kate." And the second one was just named "Duplikate."

***

In today's Gospel (Lk. 13, 22-30) the Lord reminds us that God's standards and measures are beyond our limited and often shortsighted standards and measures. "Some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." In God's eyes, there are no duplicates or copycats.

***

Indeed, God's ways are not man's ways. That which we consider ordinary may be extraordinary in God's eyes, and vice versa. There is no way we can put God in a box, neither can we make Him according to our own image and likeness. Let God be God, let man be man.

***

Fr. Vicente Manuel, SVD was just an "ordinary" student in Christ the King Seminary by worldly standards. This shy *probinsiyano* from Calintaan, Occidental Mindoro had no chance to excel in a class that was studded with gifted and talented personalities. In fact, he literally had to go through the "narrow gate" to make it to the priesthood because of academics. But in 1983, this ordinary student became local ordinary of the Vicariate of San Jose Occidental Mindoro, the first bishop from their class.

***

Bishop Manuel, SVD, D.D. died last Aug. 18, 2007. He was then an auxiliary bishop in the Archdiocese of Cebu. But more than the office, we remember the person. More than achievements, we remember moments. Because God's ways are not man's ways, whenever we look at people, we must not judge; neither must we just throw accolades. In the end, we leave everything in God's mercy and love.

***

By the way, a bishop is called the "ordinary" of a place. Bishop Manuel was an ordinary "ordinary" in the sense that he was not exceptional or unusual. But he was very personal. In the words of his classmate Fr. Willy Villegas, SVD, he was a very positive and supportive person. Come to think of it, that's all we ask of people who lead us.

***

God sees the heart. This is our consolation. For if God only sees the looks, the plaques, the medals, the wallets, etc., then most of us will be discouraged and dismayed. Most of us live ordinary lives, but it is heartening to know that God judges us not by our achievements or by our plans, but by the love we have shared while doing ordinary things, living ordinary lives.

***

Why is it that we have the tendency to inspect and suspect a person while he/she is still around, and respect him/her when he/she is gone? Instead of judging, instead of comparing, instead of condemning, let us all work out our salvation.

***

There is a story about a skydiving student who asked his instructor: "Sir, what if I dive, and the parachute does not open?"

"Son, that is what we call jumping to conclusion," the instructor replied.

Don't we all play that deadly game sometimes?

***

There is a beautiful line in the "Desiderata" that says: "If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or bitter, for always, there will be lesser or greater persons than yourself." How true. We spend a lot of energy on useless imaginings and fruitless bickerings.

***

And what do we say to those who think they are exceptional and extraordinary, and who expect to be treated accordingly? You're not! It's just your illusion. You too will grow old, you too will fade, you too will die. Death is the great equalizer and we all will have a final reckoning, and we all will pass through the final and ultimate Bureau of Customs and Bureau of Immigration at the gate of heaven. Sorry, no blinkers, no sirens will be allowed there.

***

Let me end with a story I heard about a conceited politician (aren't most of them?) who visited an old folk's home. He was welcomed by everyone except by an old man in a corner sitting on his wheelchair.

The politician stopped and asked him "Don't you know who I am?"

The old man just stared at him.

For the second time the politician asked him: "Don't you know who I am?"

This time the old man looked at him and said: "No, but you can ask the nurses. They have a file on each one of us."

In the end, it's not who we think we are, or who others think we are, but who we are to God that matters. He has the final say, the final file.

***

Inviting you to a pilgrimage to Akita, Japan and Naju, Korea on Oct. 17-27. For particulars, please call 5238581 to 88.

There will be another pilgrimage to Naju, Korea on Nov. 14-20. For more details, please call 9130388, 9111394, 09202866810.

***

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, remind me that there is peace and beauty in being simple and ordinary. Amen.

Soul of the Ramos presidency

WITH DUE RESPECT

Artemio V. Panganiban

LAST AUG. 16, THE FOUNDATION FOR ECOnomic Freedom launched the interesting, provocative and highly educative book titled **"We Must Level the Playing Field"** authored by former National Security Adviser Jose T. Almonte. Together with President Fidel V. Ramos, I was invited to speak "about the book and the author."

Shadowy and enigmatic. I met the author, fondly called JoeAl, just before FVR took office on June 30, 1992. Initially, I was wary of him. Because of his well-publicized deep-penetration exploits, I thought of him as some sort of James Bond and Napoleon Solo. He had a reputation of being shadowy, sneaky, mysterious and enigmatic. His book (p. 206) says the media described him as "sinister" and "arrogant."

He invited me to the meetings of the "Wednesday Group," during which he floated his pet ideas and visions. In time, I gradually eased into his real persona as a true-blue ideologue, thinker and strategist. When the topic was about reforms needed to propel the country to prosperity, he carefully chose his words to express the exact nuance of his thoughts. Animatedly, he dwelt on goals and visions, principles and values, all geared towards the long-term needs of the nation.

After I joined the Supreme Court in 1995, I stopped attending the Wednesday meetings for ethical and other reasons. But JoeAl's commonsensical theories strengthened my own belief that law must be interpreted and applied in the context of pulsating contemporary social and economic realities. Indeed, the rule of law must not only safeguard liberty but must help eradicate poverty and nurture prosperity.

Central ideology. To explain the book's central theme, let me quote JoeAl directly: "To level the playing field of enterprise, we must cut the networks of collusion that have allowed persons of influence to extract wealth without effort from the economy. And we must smooth the economic distortions that perpetuate jobless growth and uneven development." (p. 7)

In day-to-day governance, this vision led the Ramos government "to dismantle the most blatant monopolies—in telecommunications, transportation, banking, insurance—open up strategic industries, attract foreign direct investments and raise tax and custom revenues." (p. 6) To do these meant battling "oligarchic interests (that) had clustered around the protectionist strategy." (p. 3)

Military activism. As a retired general, JoeAl knew the length, breadth and depth of the military establishment. Poignantly and carefully, he wrote, "Of all the institutions in the new countries, the military is commonly the best organized, the most nearly equal, the most disciplined and the most closely-knit. Hence, it becomes—in most cases, unavoidably—a major player in post independence politics." (p. 170)

Even after a country—like the Philippines—has emerged from infancy, he warns that there is always "the likelihood that our dissident officers will emerge as an alternative leadership to our ruling oligarchy. By class and income origin, they come mainly from our country's lower middle class. By work-experience, they are close to the world of the common *tao*. They are, therefore, well-equipped to articulate the ordinary Filipino's needs, wants and aspirations." (p. 20)

To prevent unrest in the military, he urges the civilian leaders to free the nation of injustice, corruption and intolerable poverty, because "without reforms, no kind of punishment—neither 30 push ups nor the firing squad—can keep soldiers/police in their barracks." (p. 8)

Upon the other hand, he also has a realistic appraisal of why insurgencies sometimes persist despite the military's superiority in manpower and weapons, thus, "Insurgencies are wars of ideas just as much as they are killing competitions. Killing insurgents will not kill the insurgency. Insurgencies are won or lost depending on which side gains the people's trust." (p. 4)

Social and political reforms. Instead of doleouts and charity, he posits that "the poor can be lifted up only by economic growth that creates ... and expands jobs, and business opportunities for all those willing to take them." (p. 125) Going even further, he believes that "the poor do not need subsidies; they need economic opportunities more than they need welfare." (p. 123)

On political reforms, he ruefully points out that "parliamentary government will not be a cure-all. It is unlikely to ease quickly our deep-rooted problems of political accountability and unequal access to political power. Indeed it might only play to our factional tendencies and produce revolving-door governments." (p. 201)

To win the future, he is more confident of the role of civil society in transforming the political landscape. Thus, he wrote, "... the future of democracy in the Philippines may lie outside the formal political arena. It may lie with ... civil society... that may become the building blocks of political parties based on principles and programs, rather than on naked power and commanding personalities." (p. 214)

The book gives the unmistakable conviction that, indeed, the Ramos government had a clear ideology that animated its political, economic and social agenda. JoeAl was not only the mastermind who authored the ideology; he was also the drumbeater who kept everyone marching to the cadence of leveling the playing field. In short, this new book confirms that FVR may have been the embodiment of "Philippines 2000" but that Jose T. Almonte was the sentient soul of the Ramos presidency.

* * *

Comments welcome at chiefjusticepanganiban@hotmail.com

Measuring happiness

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

ACCORDING TO A STORY IN YESTERDAY'S issue of the INQUIRER, the Swiss are the second-happiest people on earth, after the people of Denmark. I'm sure this piece of news comes as a surprise to my friend S, who once lived for six months in Switzerland on a job assignment and spent much of her stay, it seemed, "regaling" her friends with e-mailed lamentations of how lonely she was and how "cold" the Swiss were not just to her but to everybody else.

Maybe it was because her stay took place over the winter months that S found Switzerland gloomy in both the environmental and personal sense. But when I told an acquaintance—a French woman who works in Switzerland—about my friend's observations, she agreed completely with them. She told of once hosting a party for her visiting son in her apartment and receiving a day later a letter from her neighbors complaining about the noise and din the night before. "In France," said my acquaintance, "my neighbors would have knocked on the door and perhaps even ended up joining the party. But in Switzerland, they write a letter of complaint."

Lest I get bombarded with hate mail and hounded out of this space, let me just say that I'm sure there are Swiss who are warm, outgoing, compassionate—and happy. But it makes me wonder just how these "national happiness" indices are formulated. The article said researchers once relied only on "self-reporting," that is, going around and asking people if they were happy. If I remember right, Filipinos ended up rather high on these early "happiness" indexes. But to make the ranking of "national happiness" more scientific, researchers began adding more specific, measurable factors, like education, nutrition, freedom from fear and violence, gender equality, and "perhaps most importantly" having choices.

* * *

THESE factors also figure into the United Nations' Human Development Index, which ranks countries according to how their governments promote human development, using not only some of the factors cited above, but also more specific ones like life expectancy, infant, child and maternal mortality, per capita income, and access to basic services like education, water, power, etc.

In both the HDI and the "national happiness" rankings, it's clear that national income or size of GNP doesn't guarantee either human development performance or national happiness.

Indeed, both the HDI and national happiness ratings place about the same countries high on their lists. Denmark, Switzerland, Austria, Iceland and Finland are the top five countries in the national happiness scale. The 2006 HDI lists Norway, Iceland, Australia, Ireland and Sweden as the top five "highly developed" countries.

While most of these top-ranking countries are prosperous, they are not among the richest or most powerful countries in the world. Why aren't the United States, Japan, China, the United Kingdom or Germany among the top-rankers? The news story on the national happiness index cited the United States, where wealth and choice are abundant, but where "nutrition and violence issues helped drag its rating down." And while personal, individual wealth matters, "income disparities" count for more. The wider the gap between a country's richest few and poorest many, the more "unhappy" its people are.

* * *

THE PHILIPPINES lands somewhere in the middle of the national happiness index, while it is No. 84 (in a list of 177) in the HDI, placing it among the "medium" human development nations.

Given our poverty rates and poor indices (falling performance in terms of education; distribution of basic services, especially health; and inferior performance compared with our neighbors in terms of maternal and infant mortality, for instance), it seems a wonder Filipinos are happy at all.

And yet, we make up for our poverty with the quality of our democracy, however flawed it may be, the political and personal freedoms that women and girls enjoy, and a general optimism about life and the future.

Where do we get this sunshiny attitude from? Another study found that Filipinos were among the "most spiritual" of peoples, meaning we put great store by religion or faith. Some sociologists have labeled this our "*bahala na*" attitude, leaving to God, or fate, the outcome of our lives and actions. On one hand, this may be a positive trait, protecting us from feelings of frustration or despair, allowing us to believe that a higher power is at work and that not all our human striving can change the inevitable. On the other, trusting too much in fate or God can lead to apathy or indifference, to premature surrender—when we can very well change the course of our lives—to vulnerability, manipulation and deceit.

* * *

BUT I also think that Filipinos are naturally optimistic, a view of life that is bolstered by our sense of humor which allows us to appreciate the funny, the ironic and the bizarre in even the worst of circumstances.

Note the TV news footage of the recent floods that hit the Metro area, with homes and entire communities under several feet of floodwater. While there were the predictable crying mothers and angry fathers in the evacuation centers, the news footage was full of half-naked children cavorting in the muddy waters, holding up "V" signs for the camera.

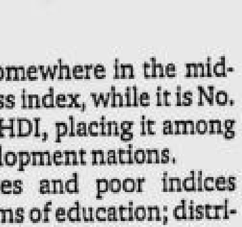
Perhaps having a good time in the midst of disaster would not make for a particularly accurate measurement of national happiness or development status. But it's a pretty good coping mechanism for people with little control over their lives, and for whom disasters are part of the general uncertainty of life.

Happiness, after all, is what you make of it.

France revived

WORLD VIEW

Michel Rocard



NICOLAS SARKOZY WON THE FRENCH PRESIdential election in May in part because he attracted a substantial portion of the far Right's supporters to his conservative banner. Indeed, the Front National's popular support has fallen from around 15 percent to 10 percent, weakening the FN tremendously while strengthening the traditional French right.

Sarkozy succeeded by embracing the themes of national identity and immigration. As a result, many regarded his campaign as very Right-leaning. In France and across Europe, people expected an extremely conservative government, akin to US President George W. Bush's administration.

This was a mistake. Sarkozy's embrace of the theme that France's national identity has come under threat—which he linked to immigration—is not enough to make him an American-style neoconservative. He has chosen to demonstrate this most clearly in the field of foreign policy.

Sarkozy formed his government in the knowledge that French foreign policy has long been consensual. So he gave the reins of the key foreign policy arms of the French government to Left-wing politicians. Bernard Kouchner, a Socialist, is minister for foreign affairs, having formerly been a Socialist minister of humanitarian affairs, and deputy minister of health.

Another leftist, Jean-Pierre Jouyet, is in charge of European affairs. Jean-Marie Bockel, the Socialist mayor of Mulhouse, is minister for cooperation and relations with the Francophone world. And Socialists have also been brought into other parts of Sarkozy's government. Fadela Amara, the manager of an NGO that defends women's right, is a secretary of state for city management.

Sarkozy's second important initiative was to re-energize the European project. After the failure in 2005 of the draft European constitution, it was far from obvious that the road to negotiations that would yield only partial progress in improving the European Union's decision-making mechanisms was the right way to proceed. After all, there was no emergency, and everybody would have understood if Sarkozy had waited another two or three years before risking his reputation on reviving the idea of a European constitution.

But Sarkozy took the risk. And he succeeded in convincing other European leaders to embrace the "simplified treaty" that he called for. Of course, the treaty's final text is not yet written, but success does seem possible, which would not only improve the mechanics of the European Union, but would also send a signal to "Euroskeptics," mainly the British and the Poles. France has not given up its demand for a "political" Europe that is more than merely a single market.

Sarkozy's third initiative came when the head of the International Monetary Fund resigned. Typically, that job is given to a European. Sarkozy surprised everyone by offering the position to a French Socialist, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, a man with real competence who enjoys widespread respect.

Strauss-Kahn's nomination was also an effective strike in terms of French domestic politics, as it promised to weaken the Socialists' opposition. But, more importantly, Sarkozy's choice of Strauss-Kahn is a crucial stand in today's global economic debates. Sarkozy is announcing that he is an economic "regulator," not a global liberal convinced that today's balance of market forces is optimal, and, thus, no intervention is needed.

The fourth initiative also concerned foreign affairs: the freeing of the six Bulgarian nurses imprisoned in Libya on false charges of infecting children deliberately with HIV/AIDS. Intense negotiations with Libya, particularly by Europe, had been going on for more than a year, but these were not successful, because Libya's ruler, Col. Moammar Gadhafi, did not trust his interlocutors. Sarkozy understood that. Choosing his wife as a negotiator helped to unblock the case.

Moreover, Sarkozy is seeking to intensify cooperation for development in the whole Mediterranean area. He began with a presidential trip to Algiers, then to Tripoli, followed by ministerial trips to Beirut, assuring that the development of this region will be a long and difficult challenge, but one that needed to be embraced.

The government's preparation to take the lead in international talks on climate change is another sign that Sarkozy intends to revive France as a global force.

After the relative lifelessness of President Jacques Chirac's final years in office, dynamism has returned to French foreign policy. That is a welcome development, and not only for France—because Sarkozy's activism also promises to boost Europe's political influence around the world. ***Project Syndicate***

Michel Rocard, former prime minister of France and leader of the Socialist Party, is a member of the European Parliament.

Sex, lies and the Catholic Church

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

THERE WAS AN OLD WOMAN OF GREAT VIRTUE, SHE had 26 children and didn't know what to do. She dressed them and schooled them and fed them their bread, bellowed at them soundly and put them to bed.

In a newspaper article, Christine Herrera reported that Gloria Junio first gave birth at 15 and popped out a bouncing Junio baby little more than once a year. She was, between births, pregnant for the majority of 20 years, alongside some of her daughters. Three children died young, one child after falling off the dinner table. She has forgotten some names, is uncertain who is still living, and now has a grand total of 96 known grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

This year, the country's population hit the astounding total of 88 million, and is expected to reach 94 million in 2010. Gloria Junio's story is just one of many. Population estimates from the Philippine Minimum National Social Data show that this country's population is a population of young people. With an unemployment rate of 7.4 percent, the ballooning birthrate renders null any of the much-trumpeted economic gains claimed by the government. The need to address the issue of overpopulation seems ridiculously obvious.

Just recently, in Olongapo City, councilor John Carlos de los Reyes was disturbed by the Reproductive Health Code's policy statement, a portion of which reads that "Unmet family planning needs due to shortage of supplies may contribute to the looming surge in the city's population in the near future." He claims that "We are poor not because we are many, but because only a few wittingly or unwittingly deprive our *kababayan* of opportunities to prosper," as if a few million more mouths to feed will make it easier to spread around "opportunities to prosper."

In 2003, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines successfully blocked legislation that would have authorized the use of national funds for condoms and other contraceptive supplies. In 2006, the government backed off from its trial run of a sex education program in two areas of Metro Manila. The bishops objected that the introduction of sex education into public schools would encourage teenagers to try premarital sex rather than remain abstinent.

The argument is interesting. A teenager's choice to have sex is not made because a teacher dangles a condom in front of students and runs down the colorful menu of possible sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Blame it on raging hormones, on television, on the alignment of the stars, or simply on choice. At the risk of excommunication, it has to be said: People do have sex before marriage, and have done so long before MTV and the World Wide Web. They will continue to do so long after this generation goes geriatric. To preach abstinence in a vacuum is not only ineffective, it is irresponsible.

The 2003 National and Demographic and Health Survey shows that the problem revolves around lack of information and access to family planning services. Sex education is not sexy; when done correctly, it is clinical, scientific and brutally honest. It explains what can happen after the wham, bam, and thank you ma'am, and what to do to prevent repercussions if the choice is to be made. Sources also say that nurses in government health clinics in Manila teach that condoms have holes in them, a myth that has also been articulated by Vatican spokesmen.

It would be wonderful if all conversations about birds and bees and what happens when watering pots meet flowers can happen between parents and children. That is rarely the case in a country where most of the parents, themselves poor and without access to correct sex education, cannot reliably transmit information. Information about sex comes from whispered conversations between friends, and it is easier to say yes to the boy who promises eternal love if there is no mention of STDs or condoms. Even with media taking up the responsibility of educating the public, the average Pinoy teenager cannot afford to buy condoms, much less the latest issue of Cosmopolitan.

Studies conducted by the UP Population Institute and the Alan Guttmacher Institute states that 473,400 cases of induced abortion were recorded in 2000. The Department of Health has put complications related to abortion as the fourth leading cause of maternal deaths in the country. Ninety-one percent of the recorded cases are of married women, and it is reasonable to assume that there are thousands more cases of young girls who bleed in dark rooms because of fear and ignorance, and more cases of fetuses found in the college toilets. Perhaps with better education programs, and greater access to contraception, none of these would have been necessary.

A bill (introduced in the 13th Congress) "providing for reproductive health care structures and appropriating funds" still sits in the back burner. According to Rep. Fergenel Biron of the fourth district of Iloilo, many of the representatives who initially supported the bill pulled out in fear of a Catholic backlash.

There are several concessions that must be made by a modern democratic country. Foremost is the right of an individual to choices he believes are beneficial to himself. It is that right that protects a leftist from being tortured because of his ideology, the same right that enshrines the value of the ballot box, and the same right that permits the publication of this column today. For the Catholic Church to claim it is immoral for a gay man to copulate with another is fair, but when the government tosses a homosexual man into jail because of that claim is to violate the principle of pluralism by which the government stands. The same goes for a man's, or, in most cases, a woman's, sovereignty over her body—it is her temple, not the Church's.

That the Church continues to campaign against contraception should not be held against the priests, it is their right. It is the government that must take responsibility for allowing that Catholic lobby to decide against the welfare of the people. At the moment, the DOH has put reproductive health and population issues at "low priority," while a P180-million budget for artificial family planning is still being delayed.

The saying goes that in a democracy, the voice of the people is the voice of God. *Vox Populi, Vox Dei*. According to a United Nations survey, in the Philippines, two out of five women who want to use contraceptives don't have access. The 2006 Family Planning Survey reveals that the unmet needs for contraception remain high, with one in six women wanting but not able to practice family planning. The 2003 National Demographic and Health Survey shows that the problem of overpopulation revolves around lack of information and access to family planning services.

In a situation where the voice from above clashes against the voice of the people, even God has to learn how to compromise.

* * *

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TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to
jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Curbing water pollution

WHEN PERSONNEL OF THE METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY demolished last week shanties encroaching on a waterway, a toilet bowl draining directly into the canal came into view.

The toilet bowl on the edge of the waterway shows how bodies of water in the metropolis have become polluted.

Unknown to many Filipinos, their homes are the biggest source of water pollution in the country. Forty-eight percent of organic pollution comes from households. In contrast, agriculture contributes 37 percent and industries just 15 percent.

Because most houses are not connected to a sewerage system, groundwater has become contaminated with effluents from septic tanks. A sewerage system covers only seven percent of Metro Manila.

The human and economic cost of dirty water is staggering. It is estimated that a third of patients in hospitals in the country are suffering from water-borne diseases like diarrhea and cholera. The problem is so serious that 18 to 25 Filipinos die each day because of water pollution, said a manager of the Local Initiatives for Affordable Wastewater Treatment (Linaw).

A World Bank report placed the economic cost of water pollution at P67 billion a year.

To address the problem, Linaw is helping local governments ensure that newly constructed buildings have the proper septic tank design. The group is also helping cities build wastewater treatment plants.

By Margaux C. Ortiz

WHEN RALPH ALINDOGAN moved into an old house in Mandaluyong City three years ago, his father made sure that the septic tank was as good as new.

"The septic tank was very old and one of its chambers was open," Alindogan, a 22-year-old college student, said. The elder Alindogan had made sure that the septic tank was sealed before he allowed his son to move in.

But when Alindogan called a sewage waste disposal company to have his septic tank emptied, the person in charge of the "desludging" advised him to have the tank's second chamber opened at the bottom.

"I did not really know what he meant by that. He just said that letting the water seep through the soil was a natural way of cleaning it," he recalled.

Despite his good intentions, the "desludger" was wrong. His tip to the young Alindogan—a practice prevalent among 80 percent of all Filipinos who have septic tanks—in fact, contributes to the biggest source of water pollution in the country.

Laundry

Forty-eight percent of organic pollution actually comes from households, domestic wastewater or effluents. They are generated by activities such as using the toilet, bathing, cleaning, laundry, cooking, washing and other kitchen activities, according to Lisa Kircher Lumbao, project manager of Local Initiatives for Affordable Wastewater Treatment (Linaw).

Lumbao said only 37 percent of the country's water pollution was caused by agricultural activities while a relatively small 15 percent came from industries, which have been perceived as the biggest contributors to the pollution of rivers and lakes in urban areas.

"Our project, guided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the US consulting firm Planning and Development Collaborative International (Padco), was conceived as a way to help local governments implement the Clean Water Act," Lumbao said in an interview with the INQUIRER.

The law, which was passed in 2004, highlights the importance of looking at household effluents as the main source of water pollution in the country, Lumbao said.

"Up until now, the government focuses more on industries such as the enforcement of regulations on factories," she said. Not enough attention and discussion have been devoted to households, which are the biggest culprits behind the alarming pollution of the country's water supply, she said.

Aside from focusing on household wastewater, the Clean Water Act calls for all households and public buildings—such as schools, business establishments and hotels—to connect to a sewerage system within five years of the passage of the law.

"However, there are hardly any sewerage systems in the country to connect to," Lumbao said. Even Metro Manila has only a mere seven percent sewerage coverage. "That's basically the Central Business District of Makati, which is connected to a wastewater treatment plant in Magallanes," she said.

Few treatment plants

Lumbao also mentioned that Manila Water Co. Inc. (MWCI) has built a few wastewater treatment plants, including one that serves the University of the Philippines Diliman campus in Quezon City and two others in Ayala Alabang and Filinvest in Muntinlupa City.

"But it's basically just a few pockets, not enough to cover the whole metropolis," she said.

Sewerage systems are basically pipes that bring all the sewage from the toilet, sink and shower to a treatment plant that uses chemicals and electricity to get rid of all the waste. Clean water then comes out of the whole process, according to Lumbao.

But most residents of Metro Manila—the 93 percent who are not connected to a sewerage system—have septic tanks. Lumbao said that septic tanks could not take the place of wastewater treatment plants in cleaning the effluents.

Groundwater

"The only purpose of the septic tank is to get rid of the solids, which settle down to the bottom of the first chamber," she said. She stressed the need for a septic tank to have two chambers: the first chamber trapping the solids or the sludge and the second chamber containing the water that should go to a treatment facility or a soil leach field.

However, the soil leach field is hardly an option in the Philippines, where most of the residents have small lots. Lumbao said that proper leach fields should have 20-foot long pipes with a gravel bed built inside and little holes where the cleaned water would come out.

"The other main problem is most of the septic tanks are so full because nobody ever empties them," she said. Overflowing is one nasty aspect of the problem, but another equally alarming scenario is the contamination of groundwater by effluents coming from open septic tanks that seep through the soil.

Coliform

Lumbao said that as a result of improper septic tank design and maintenance, a vast majority of the country's wells are affected. A water quality test in San Fernando, La Union showed that 56 out of 59 wells had been contaminated with coliform bacteria.

"The sad thing is, nobody is really aware of this issue," she said, emphasizing that wells should be at least 25 meters away from septic tanks—a practice that is sadly nonexistent among Filipinos.

Lumbao said she met early this year two architects who told her that the proper design of a septic tank should have its second chamber opened at the bottom. The architects are designing houses for the urban poor.

"We have a lot of work to do, especially in educating people about what the law says," she said, sighing.

Right way

She emphasized the right way of building and maintaining septic tanks to prevent contaminated effluents from reaching the groundwater supply. The first thing to be done, according to Lumbao, is to seal septic tanks at the bottom.

The solids, or what she calls sludge or septage, should be emptied on a regular basis (every three to five years) before the septic tank overflows.

The third problem involves companies paid to siphon off the sludge from the septic tanks that just dump the highly concentrated and highly pollutive septage into creeks and waterways.

Lumbao said water companies such as Manila Water and Maynilad follow a schedule in pumping out septic tanks and treat the sludge properly.

"Treatment, or proper septage management, will make a very big difference in our water pollution problem," she said.

Pilot cities

Pilot cities Linaw has been working with, including Muntinlupa, Naga, Iloilo, Dumaguete, Calbayog and Malaybalay, have been dealing with the septic tank issue by ensuring that newly constructed buildings have the proper septic tank design.

"It is unrealistic to just go and dig up all these bad septic tanks and replace them, but making sure that all tanks that get built from now on would have the proper design could help a lot," Lumbao said.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ/PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

The second phase, which involves management of the septage, is undoubtedly more difficult, according to the Linaw project manager.

"There are a couple of cities that are looking at the second step. One particular example is our pilot city, Dumaguete, in Negros Oriental," she said.

Lumbao said all the wastewater generated by the city eventually go to the ocean through 11 pipes at the seawall of Dumaguete's famous boulevard.

"The fecal coliform level in the water is 22 times the allowable standard and you can smell it," she said.

Dumaguete

To solve the problem, the Dumaguete City government, with the help of Linaw, conceived an "interceptor system" involving an underground pipe that would cut through all the old pipes and bring the wastewater straight to a treatment plant.

Lumbao said an interceptor system could be applied to the Pasig River and the Laguna Lake to help clean their waters.

Dumaguete officials are also implementing a citywide system to ensure the emptying out of septic tanks every three to five years and have started constructing a facility to treat the waste.

"Their treatment facility is very low-cost. It involves a series of lagoons or ponds that use natural bacteria instead of chemicals or electricity," Lumbao said.

The project in Dumaguete is the first citywide septage management program in the Philippines.

Groundwater contamination through the failure to address the septage problem has resulted in severe health problems among Filipinos.

"If you go to any hospital, you'll see that one-third of the people coming in are suffering from water-borne diseases such as diarrhea and cholera," Lumbao said.

The incidence of disease in the Philippines due to water pollution is very high compared with countries that have proper wastewater treatment facilities.

Economic losses

Lumbao said the World Bank's Philippine Environment Monitor 2003 placed the Philippine economy's losses due to water pollution at P67 billion a year.

"It is very alarming that 18 to 25 Filipinos die each day because of water pollution," she said, noting that health costs have a huge economic impact on the government.

She also mentioned how water contamination had affected fishery production, as evidenced by fish "gasping for air" at the polluted Laguna Lake.

The Philippine Environment Monitor likewise shows that the country's tourism industry has been affected by water pollution brought about by unmanaged sewage.

Boracay

"Sewage released directly into the sea, carried via rivers and gullies, or drains into groundwater from septic tanks and pit latrines, which then flows into the sea through sand and limestone, would degrade the quality of the coastal waters," the World Bank report said.

The report also cited how the pristine waters of Boracay island, an international tourist destination in Western Visayas, experienced a 60-percent decline in occupancy rate in 1997 because of the high levels of coliform in its waters.

"We are now working with the World Bank to come up with more accurate and up-to-date figures," Lumbao said.

"We want to convince people like President Macapagal-Arroyo and other officials at the national level that the issue is worth investing in," she said. If the Philippine economy is losing P67 billion annually, investing P1 billion or P2 billion in fixing the problem will help solve water pollution, Lumbao said.

She sadly noted that while Phnom Penh, Cambodia has 50-percent sewerage coverage while Dhaka, Bangladesh has 30 percent. Metro Manila is lagging behind with a mere seven percent.

"We are not poorer than these countries but they are a lot more advanced in terms of access to a pipe sewerage system," she said. "Let us remember that this is also a decency issue that we must focus our attention on."

(Margaux C. Ortiz is a reporter of the Philippine Daily Inquirer. She attended early this year a World Bank water and sanitation workshop in Bangkok, Thailand.)

Sources of pollution

THERE ARE THREE MAIN SOURCES of water pollution—domestic (municipal), industrial and agricultural. They can be classified further as either point sources, which emit harmful substances directly into a body of water, or nonpoint sources, which are scattered and deliver pollutants indirectly.

Solid waster is a major nonpoint source of water pollution that needs to be better controlled. Solid waste, disposed either at a dumpsite or directly into water-bodies, generates high loads of organic and inorganic pollution through biological disintegration.

Leachate seeps through the ground and its aquifer and contaminates groundwater or seeps into rivers, lakes and coastal waters directly. Despite the passage of the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act into law in January 2001, open dumpsites are still operated around Metro Manila and all over the Philippines.

The major pollutants monitored for water pollution are: biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and dissolved oxygen (DO); suspended solids (SS); total dissolved solids (TDS); coliform; nitrates; phosphates; heavy metals like mercury and chromium, toxic organics like pesticides and others. Of these pollutants, extensive data have been compiled for BOD and DO between 1995 and 2001, while data for the other highly toxic pollutants are still incomplete.

Household

Domestic wastewater is generated by activities such as bathing, cleaning, sanitation, laundry, cooking, washing and other kitchen activities. Domestic wastewater contains a large amount of organic waste with suspended solids and coliform.

Half of the organic waste is from the domestic sector. Domestic wastewater is the main contributor to BOD pollution with 1,090,000 metric tons (48 percent of the total load), followed by agricultural with 822,000 metric tons (37 percent), and industrial with 325,000 metric tons (15 percent).

Industry

The volume and characteristics of industrial effluents differ by industry and depend on the production processes and scale of production used. Industrial wastewater may be organic and/or organic. There are industries that are water-intensive and correspondingly discharge large amounts of wastewater such as food and dairy manufacturing; pulp, paper and paperboard products; and textile products, and others.

Other types of waste include thermal waste, created by cooling processes used by industry and thermal power stations. The increase in temperature can change the ecology of bodies of water. Additionally, hospital wastes are usually infectious and have to be controlled at the source. Thermal, health care (hospital or medical), and toxic and hazardous wastes are created by industrial sources and can pose long-term risk.

Agriculture

Farms are the major source of water pollution in rural areas. The absence of facilities to intercept surface runoffs from agricultural farms degrades the water quality of surface and groundwater, especially in the downstream urban areas.

Major sources of agricultural effluents considered in the estimates of agricultural BOD generation include livestock and poultry. Major sources of agricultural runoffs include: organic wastes such as decayed plants, livestock manure, and dead animals; soil loss in the form of suspended solids; and pesticides and fertilizer residues.

Source: Philippine Environment Monitor 2003

INQUIRER Mindanao

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Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

'Lumad' leader brings hope to villagers

By Jeffrey M. Tupas
Magpet, North Cotabato

HIS FEET WERE SOILED AND beads of sweat were running down his face, but Jeoffrey Aba did not mind it. He welcomed his guests in his village of Manobisa in Magpet town, North Cotabato.

He was apologetic for being minutes late and confessed to having had to skip his Sunday lessons offered by a protestant church where he was enrolled as a student.

Although filled with regret, Aba gladly showed his visitors around, told his story and those of the people in the small village that overlooks the majestic Mt. Apo.

He said they were waiting for their ancestral land, a precious possession for every lumad (indigenous peoples), to be finally given to them.

The villagers were claiming the entire area of Manobisa and the nearby Imamaling as part of their ancestral domain. The National Commission for Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is processing the villagers' claim, with help from the United Nations ACT for Peace Programme.

The NCIP has surveyed at least 60 percent of the 2,650 hectares of land being titled. The determination of Aba and his fellow Manobo to own the land started before 1999 when the certificate of ancestral domain claim was granted to them.

While expressing how happy they were about the development, Aba could not help but lament the irony of their situation.

"Why does it take so long for the indigenous peoples to get titles for their land? Why would a thing be given to us when it is already ours? Now, it even needs a huge amount for our land to be given to us," Aba said.

Fast track

Lawyer Eric Raz, North Cotabato NCIP director, said their office was fast-tracking the process.

"I know what they are feeling. They just have to wait because we are doing everything to complete and give them the titles. We are, in fact, thankful that the ACT for Peace has extended us financial assistance," Raz said.

Aba said they were confident that this time, the NCIP will deliver results to the people of Manobisa, as a government agency mandated to help and protect the indigenous peoples.

Manobisa was formerly called Sitio Napasan of the nearby Barangay Pangao-an. It has a land area of 2,650 hectares with a mostly steep and mountainous topography.

One of the far-flung villages of Magpet, inhabited mostly by Manobo who practice monocropping and slash-and-burn planting, the village has been one of the priority areas for intervention by various non-government organizations, government agencies, and foreign donor agencies.

Not too long ago, the United Nations Multi-Donor Program, in partnership with the Philippine government, implemented the diversified farming systems, adopting the farming systems development (FSD) approach instituted by the Don Bosco Technology Resource Center.

The system allowed the residents of Manobisa to manage their own farms in a sustainable manner, following the science of biodynamics—an environment-friendly and health conscious agriculture practice.

SOME lumad children from the far-flung villages of Magpet go to school on foot.

PHOTOS BY JEFFREY M. TUPAS

Two banana-based demonstration farms are run by the villagers and replicated in their respective farms. Aba said they were operating through *alayon* (helping out) system by taking turns in developing one villager's farm for free.

"We help one another. We allot a day for all of us to work in a particular farm and in the next farm the following week. We also contribute to buy a pig to be slaughtered during the barangay fiesta," Aba said.

With outside assistance, Aba said, the people in Manobisa have developed a sense of importance and dignity. Now, he stressed, the men would no longer go out of the village to look for odd jobs that most of the time put them in trouble.

He recounted how a group of men from Manobisa became sugarcane harvesters and ended up being involved in a bloody fight. Had the men been working their own farms, the incident would have not happened, he said.

LUMAD leader Aba is determined to give the people of Manobisa their own land.

"Since the assistance poured in, no one in the community has been leaving the village. They're busy working in their farms," Aba added.

But Aba admitted that there were developments that went out of his control as a village chief. He was referring to the entry of people and corporations that developed their lands into Cavendish banana plantations in exchange for a very minimal rent. "A mother once asked permission to allow her land to be rented out for banana. The community allowed her as she needed the money to pay her child's tuition," Aba said.

A part of the village is now host to hectares of banana plantations and the village chief said he would no longer allow any expansion. At least 50 hectares of the area claimed by the lumad as ancestral domain are planted to Cavendish bananas.

He said the community does not allow the expansion of banana plantations.

He said he took it as his responsibility to protect the interest of the people whose culture and tradition is threatened by outside forces, not to mention the lack of opportunity and neglect.

And as a leader, he took it as a responsibility to show good example.

Aba is 33 years old but every Sunday, he sees to it that he attends the Sunday school, a sort of a bridge program offered to him and his fellow lumad in Magpet by the Alliance Church.

He would later confess that he had been encouraging some of the "boys" in his village to enroll and be religious about going to the school where they learn the basics, something that they did not learn during their youth for lack of opportunity to go to school.

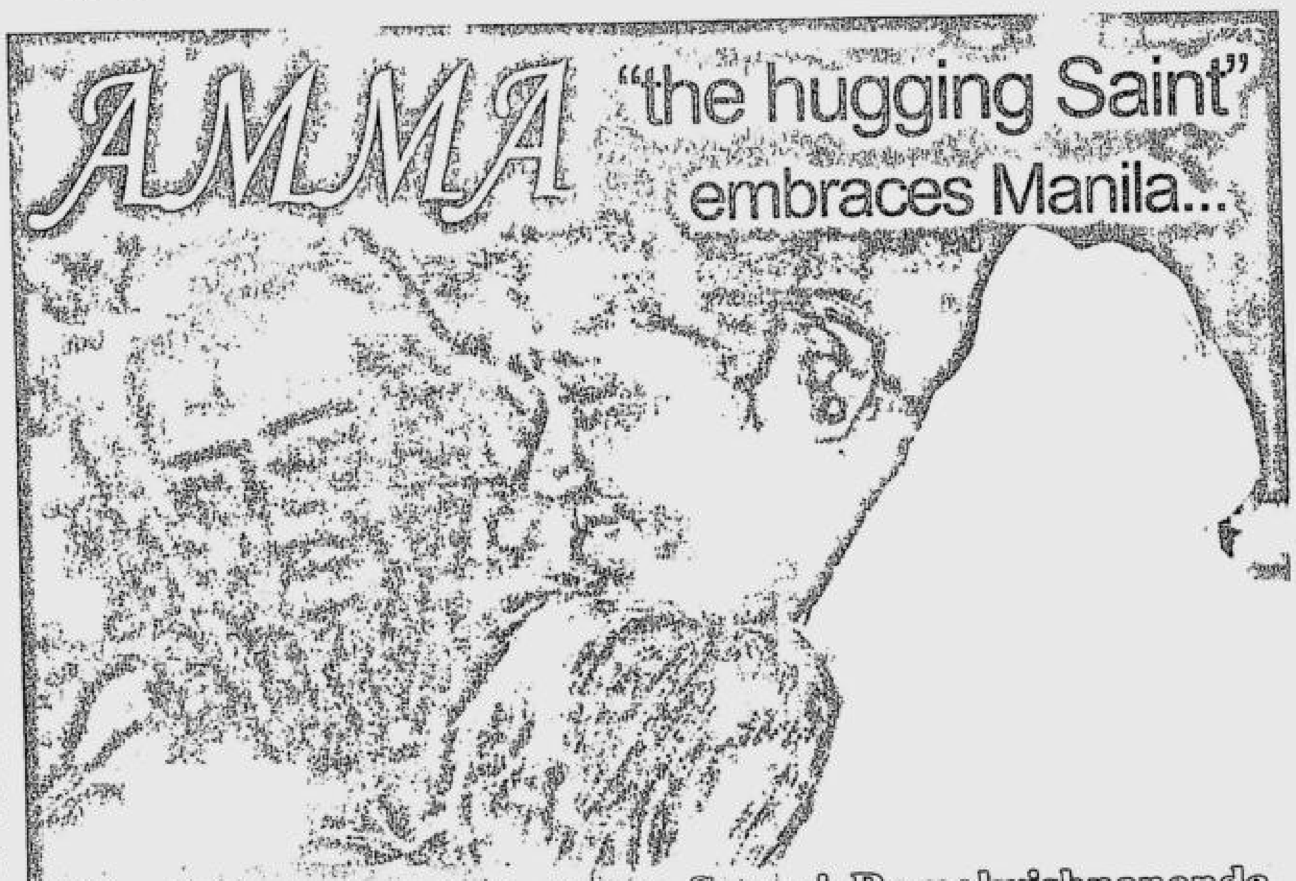
And just like other lumad, who have been deprived of education, Aba had his own share of mischief as a dropout who later became delinquent but redeemed himself as a community leader.

When he was chosen as the Manobisa barangay chair, Aba said he realized that his responsibility did not only involve his wife and children but also his fellow lumad.

He said he was challenged by the call to serve the people of Manobisa who have long been struggling to escape poverty.

Now, all Aba wants is to see the people of Manobisa out of poverty.

"We experienced difficulties. I hope those won't be experienced by our children. We're doing our best to provide them comfortable lives," he said.



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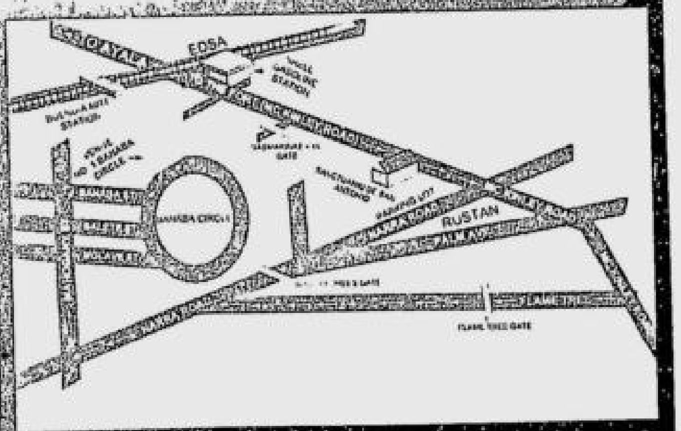

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1,000 villagers turn back mining firm

By Melvin Gascon
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA—FOR THE second time in six weeks, villagers in upland Kasibu town succeeded on Friday in repulsing a foreign mining firm which was trying to enter the area and conduct exploration activities.

About 1,000 villagers forced a company truck to back off, stopping this from moving forward as it reached the barricade site in Paquet village, according to Benito Cudiam, a tribal leader.

"It was a hair-raising experience. The people sat in the middle of the road, just waiting for the truck to reach them. They showed the company how determined they were in preventing its entry," Cudiam said.

At about midnight Friday, workers of Oxiana Philippines Inc., (OPI) an Australian firm, decided to turn back instead, when Kasibu Mayor Romeo Tayaban intervened.

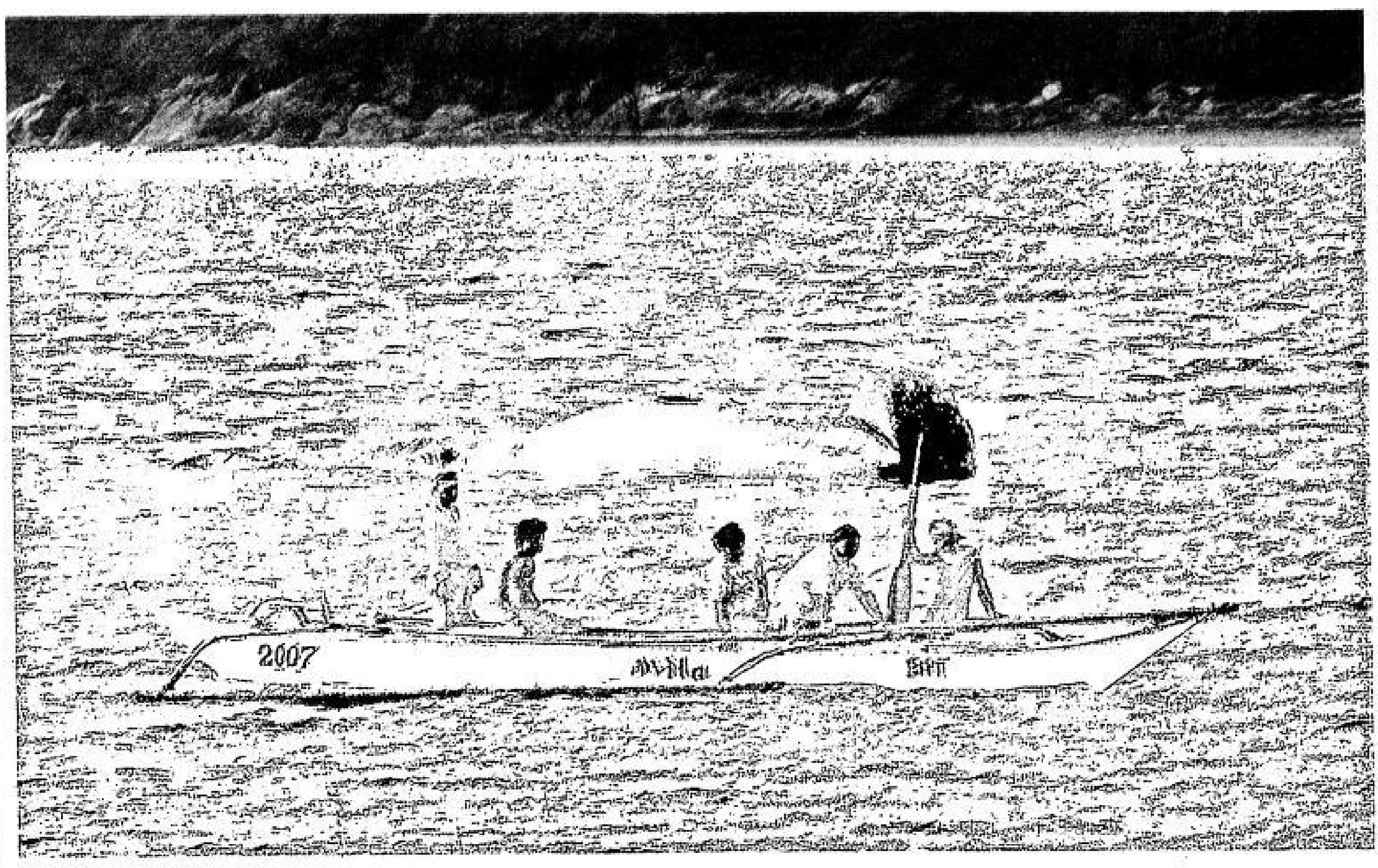
A rented bulldozer that company workers placed on standby and was supposed to be used for the opening of a new road leading to the exploration site, was never used, the villagers said.

As the day's events unfolded, representatives from Church groups and nongovernment organizations held vigil at the site.

"For hours, tension was high in the area. We were so worried about what would happen after negotiations failed," said Sister Maria Eden Orlino, directress of the Diocesan Social Action Commission.

The INQUIRER on Saturday sought Joey Nelson Ayson, OPI country director, and Jerrysal Mangaoang, director of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau in Cagayan Valley, but they declined to give any comment.

Members of Bugkalot, Ifugao and Kalanguya tribes from Pao, Paquet, Dine, Kakidugen and Cataraoan villages have been preventing the entry of OPI equipment to show their opposition to the company's planned mining exploration.



BIG LOSS
Residents of Barangay Papaya in Nasugbu, Batangas get closer to a whale that they found floating near their village's shore Aug. 23. The sight surprised many as whales are rarely seen in the village's waters. The whale turned out to be dead. REM ZAMORA

Workers want say in planned Transco sale

BAGUIO CITY—FORMER UNION officials of the National Power Corp., who were absorbed by the National Transmission Corp. (Transco), have written top energy officials to include them in privatization talks now that Transco's operations have been scheduled for another auction by the end of the year.

Fernando Masapol, president of the Mindanao Transco Employees Association (Mintrea); Walder Revelar, president of the employees association's Luzon branch; and Marlon Parot, president of Transco's managerial union called Comet 33, asked Energy Secretary Angelo Reyes and the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM) this week to guarantee them job security under a private manager should the December bidding process for their firm push through.

Representation

"We appeal for representation in the pursuit of the government's privatization initiatives. We understand that PSALM is again taking the lead in efforts to privatize the Transco by December this year," the groups said in their petition.

The $3-billion Transco had been on the country's auction bloc since 2003, after President Macapagal-Arroyo signed the 2001 Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira).

But its latest privatization attempt in February attracted only one consortium, owned by investment firm Citadel Holdings Inc., and Italian power grid operator Terna SPA, according to the website of the Office of the President.

Access

On Thursday, the employees' groups sent a separate petition to PSALM president Jose Ibazeta demanding access to the proposed "concession agreement" that outlines how employees would be treated if a winning bidder takes over Transco's operations next year.

The groups urged the government to make sure that the winning concessionaire must employ all Transco workers for five years.

They said part of the lease term should include a pay scale that is "competitive with the industry and should be 35 percent higher than the current Transco pay plan."

The employees want a profit-sharing incentive and a 300-kilowatt hour power subsidy.

They also want a guarantee that their unions continue operating even under the concessionaire's administration.

Deja vu

"This is deja vu. I was negotiating the same terms when I was a Luzon president of the Napocor's rank and file union and now I am repeating that process," Revelar said.

Transco was created after Napocor was broken into independent corporations to run transmission lines and corporations that generate electricity.

Napocor's break up was guided by Epira although the government kept ownership of Transco assets.

Revelar said the commodity government is selling are the grid's management and Transco's workforce.

"So we had to move again because like our experience with the privatization of Napocor, we have been kept in the dark ..." he said.

In her State of the Nation address this year, Ms Arroyo called for amendments to Epira after noting that energy deregulation had been slower than anticipated.

Revelar said the union was assured in a recent meeting that Ms Arroyo would speed up the sale of its power assets. *Vincent Cabreza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

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ROUNDUP

11 in 'pot session' nabbed

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Police arrested 11 men who were caught using shabu (methamphetamine hydrochloride) inside a house in Sta. Cruz, Laguna just past midnight Thursday.

Those arrested were identified as Jeffrey Garin, 28; Rolan de Roxas, 30; Angelo Magsino, 27; Jun Estilles, 34; Michael Naceta, 21; Ramil Ali, 39; Dondee Ramos, 23; Meynard Allado, 28; Jaime Arbo, 27; Alvin Bautista, 34; and Charlie Aynere, 26.

Cavite police director Senior Supt. Felipe Rojas Jr. said Sta. Cruz and Pagsanjan policemen swooped down on the house of Garin in Barangay Pagsawitan at about 12:30 a.m. and caught the suspects inhaling shabu.

Police recovered six plastic sachets containing suspected shabu and other drug paraphernalia from the suspects who are now detained at the Sta. Cruz Municipal Police Office.

Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

2 robbers killed in gunfight

CAMP PANTALEON GARCIA, Cavite—Two suspected members of a bank robbery syndicate were killed and two others were arrested in a gunfight with policemen in Kawit, Cavite on Aug. 14.

Police identified the fatalities as Jonathan Asahar and Salvador Surabia.

Arrested were Ronnel Castillo and Almar Celesta.

Recovered from them were two loaded .45-cal. pistols.

Senior Supt. Fidel Posadas, Cavite police chief, said the four suspects were members of the Abuyog Group and were natives of Oton, Iloilo.

Posadas said the two who were killed were lookouts.

Marlon Ramos, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Teenagers nabbed for robberies

BIÑAN, Laguna—Two youngsters who allegedly belonged to a robbery gang behind a spate of holdups in the first district of Laguna in the past few months were arrested in separate police operations here last week, police said Monday.

Town police chief Supt. Edgardo de Leon said the two suspects, both 17 years old, were arrested separately in Sitio Pragmatic, Barangay Sto. Tomas last Aug. 9.

Confiscated from them were a nine-gauge shotgun, bullets for the firearm and a knife.

De Leon said the suspects and their group were responsible for at least nine robberies in San Pedro, Biñan and Sta. Rosa towns since March, including a heist at a convenience store in San Pedro where the suspects took at least P50,000 in cash.

De Leon said the group was known to kill victims who fight back.

"At their age, the members of this group have murdered several persons. One of their victims was a 48-year-old woman from Biñan who was killed when she saw the suspects break into her house," he said in a press briefing.

90 NPA supporters yield

TACLOBAN CITY—At least 90 alleged supporters of the New People's Army in Leyte surrendered to the military.

Lt. Col. Lope Dagoy, commanding officer of the 19th Infantry Battalion, said that the surrender of the alleged NPA supporters happened between July 31 until Aug. 2 this year.

Dagoy said that the 88 who surrendered came from the five barangays of two Leyte towns—Tagabaca, Wague, Maloto and Bagabao, all located in Leyte-Leyte town, and in Cabungahan, in Villaba town.

He said these villages were former guerrilla bases of the NPA in the western part of Leyte.

The group, who are alleged supporters of the Northern Leyte Front Command, also surrendered 86 handguns and two high-powered firearms, Dagoy said.

The two M-16s surrendered to Dagoy were from a certain Jun Bazarte and Rolando Ballermo, who would receive P18,000 each under the "Balik-Baril Program" of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Joey A. Gabieta, Inquirer Visayas

Bacolod has lotto winner

BACOLOD CITY—A bettor who bought a lotto ticket from a Bacolod outlet has won the P90-million Megalotto jackpot drawn Monday night.

Ed Alunan, owner of a lotto outlet in Bacolod City, said the winning lotto 6/45 combination was 5-15-17-19-24-25 and carried a cash prize of P90,961,561.80

He said this was the third time that a lotto bettor who purchased a ticket from his outlet won the jackpot.

In 1996, a bettor at his outlet won P27 million and, in 1999, another bettor won P18 million.

Alunan said he did not have the winner's identity but even if he did, he could not give details about the winner for security reasons

Carla P. Gomez, Inquirer Visayas

Moro leaders say 2 new Army execs good sign for peace bid

ZAMBOANGA CITY—MORO leaders and peace advocates welcomed the appointments of what they described as two pro-peace generals to higher positions in the military.

Earlier, Lt. Gen. Alexander Yano was appointed Army commander while Maj. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino was named chief of the Philippine Marine Corps.

The Army and the Marines are the military's main forces in Basilan and Sulu.

About 4,000 troops from the units are now engaged in an offensive against Abu Sayyaf bandits and their allies.

Yano, who was born and raised in Zamboanga del Sur, had worked for the peace process with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front while Dolorfino was chair of the government-MILF Ad Hoc Joint Action Committee.

Anak Mindanao Rep. Mujiv Hataman said he was hoping that the experience of the two generals in the peace process would help them make the right decisions in pursuing the war on terror.

"I am hoping that their experiences with the peace process will lord over their military combat experiences," Hataman said.

He said it was good for Mindanao to have "peace managers than to have warfare endorsers."

"In warfare no one wins. In peace, everyone will end up victorious," Hataman said.

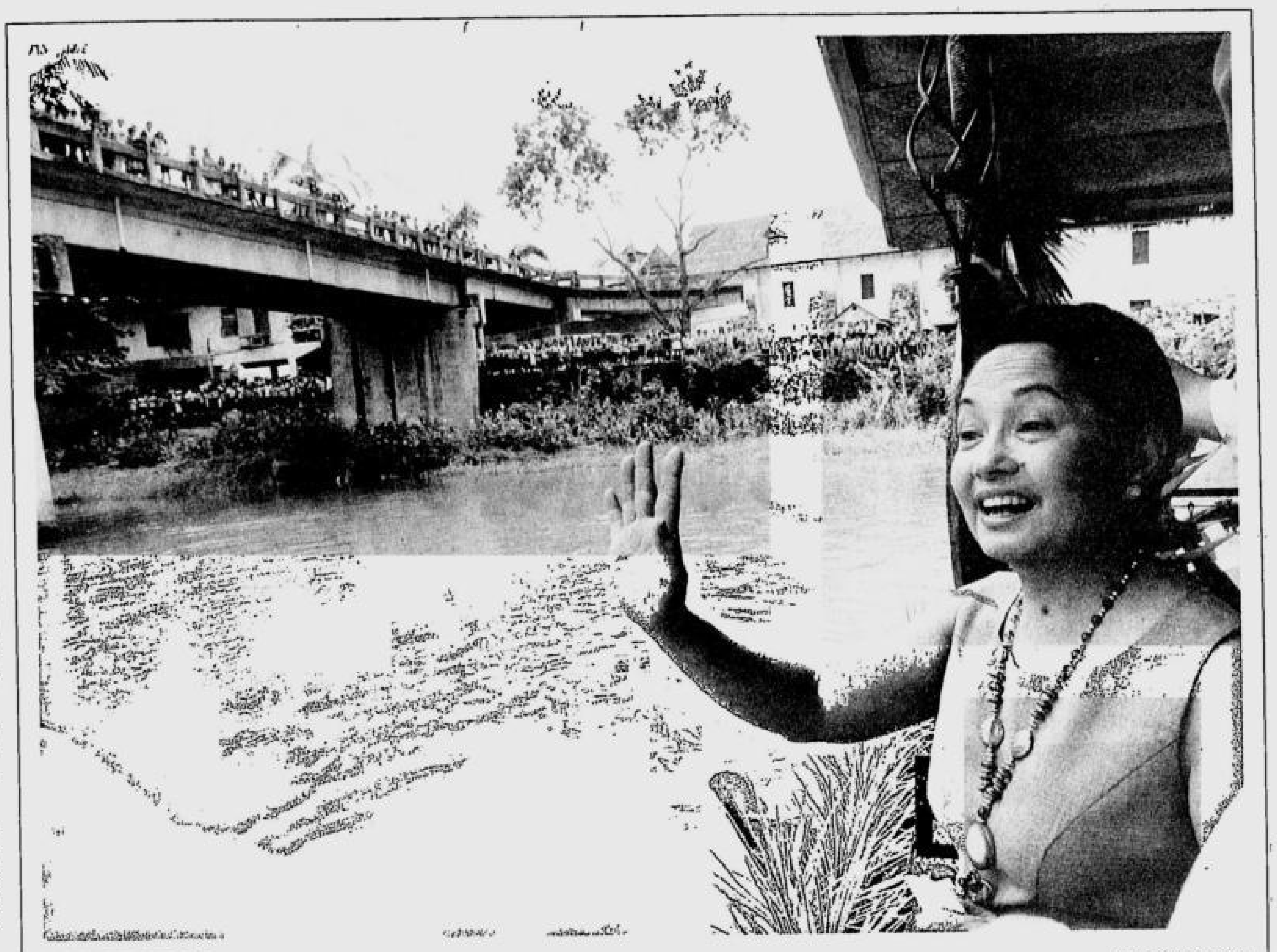
Manny Muarip, of the Jamaat Tabligh based in Basilan, said Dolorfino had already proven his being pro-peace when he was still with the Southern Command.

"Dolorfino, to me, is a peace broker, he can deal well with Muslims like the way he dealt with Malik's group," he said, referring to the recent uprising of Ustadz Habier Malik in Panamao, Sulu.

Dolorfino managed to convince Malik to negotiate with the government instead of pursuing an armed struggle.

Fatmawati Salapuddin, public relations officer of Lupah Sug Women's Association, said she was very optimistic about the two generals' capability to bring peace to Mindanao.

"I do believe the two generals can help ease conflict in Mindanao," she said. *Julie Alipala, Inquirer Mindanao*



MALACAÑANG PHOTO

GUIDED TOUR
President Macapagal-Arroyo waves to a crowd that gathered to see her as she takes a ride aboard a floating restaurant off Loboc River in Loboc, Bohol. The President was in Bohol to preside over the Peace and Order Conference and promote tourism in the area.

Red tide puts Sorsogon City in calamity state

SORSOGON CITY—IN A SPECIAL session Friday, the Sangguniang Panglunsod of Sorsogon declared a state of calamity due to the continued presence of red tide in Sorsogon Bay and approved the allocation of P15 million from the city's calamity fund.

The declaration was made following the poisoning of 12 members of two families who ate *tahong* (green mussels) for lunch.

Councilor Ferdinand Laguna, appropriations committee chair, said bulk of the budget would be used for livelihood assistance for fishermen while a portion would be used as medical assistance for victims of red tide poisoning.

Laguna said all bamboo poles now used in green mussel farms at the Sorsogon Bay would be removed.

This would stop the gathering of tahong, he said.

The city council directed the city agriculture office to come up with a plan for a livelihood assistance program.

Deadly farms

The Sorsogon Provincial Agriculture Office supports the plan to remove all *tahong* farms in the city waters to stop the gathering of green mussels in Sorsogon Bay.

Serafin Lacdang, head of the PAO-Fishery Section, said the move would effectively prevent shellfish poisoning, which had killed several people, the latest of which was a 4-year-old boy from a coastal village here.

Lacdang said the shellfish ban imposed by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in Sorsogon Bay failed to deter fishermen from gathering *tahong* due to lack of personnel who could monitor compliance with the ban.

He said the other towns around the bay area, which also have *tahong* farms, should be covered by the ban, too.

Lingering

Lacdang said at least 4,000 fishermen and their families had been affected by the red tide, which has been plaguing the bay since September last year.

He said the unusually long duration of red tide occurrence in the bay was very alarming and must be studied thoroughly to determine its cause.

Lacdang said a team from the BFAR was set to arrive here next week to conduct a scientific study on the bay.

He also urged local government units around the bay to pool resources to test *tahong* samples for red tide toxins.

He lamented the lack of fund for the Red Tide Monitoring Task Force.

Last month, the PAO said in a task force meeting that fishermen here had already lost at least P41 million in potential income due to the continued presence of red tide at the Sorsogon Bay for more than a year now.

Sharon Escoto, head of the PAO's Red Tide Laboratory Office, said the figure was a conservative estimate because it represented only losses in Sorsogon City and Casiguran town.

Aside from these two areas, the bay also covers the towns of Juban, Magallanes, Castilla and Pilar.

Pollutants

Last December, local and environmental officials, who held a conference on the issue, said the increased level of red tide here was traced to pollution brought by human, animal and industrial wastes like fertilizer residues, engine oils and other pollutants.

Board member Cherry Diaz, chair of the provincial board's committee on environment, said the inland water tributaries, which empty into the Sorsogon Bay, were found to be highly polluted with the level of toxicity ranging from 778 to 11,954 saxotoxins, according to the latest water analysis report released by the BFAR on Dec. 8.

Bobby Q. Labalan, Inquirer Southern Luzon

CHILDREN in a remote village of Datu Odin Sinsuat, Shariff Kabunsuan get near a soldier carrying a rifle. Groups advocating the protection of children's rights are saying children are becoming more and more vulnerable during armed conflicts, sometimes being tagged as combatants.

JEOFFREY MAITEM/ INQUIRER MINDANAO

Group says kids are tagged combatants in war on rebs

BAGUIO CITY—A CHILDREN'S rights group said escalating hostilities between the government and rebels have resulted in children being tagged as combatants.

Renato Macaspac, campaigns and advocacy officer of the Salinlahi Alliance for Children's Concern, said children are often used for propaganda mileage by labeling them as "children combatants," "warriors" or "couriers" when they are caught by government forces during gun battles or insurgency operations.

"It is the job of the government to run after the rebels such as the New People's Army and not to chase and catch children," Macaspac told the INQUIRER.

Macaspac, whose group conducted a children's workshop in Kalinga, urged the rebels and the government to spare children in the armed conflict. He said the labeling has traumatized children who are caught in the war.

"Based on our research, children do not have anything to do with the situation they are caught in," he said.

He said there was an increasing number of cases of abuses against children that were caused by the government's campaign against terrorism.

He said most of the abuse cases include torture, displacement, massacre and indiscriminate firing. These were documented in Mindanao, Southern Tagalog, Central Luzon and Cordillera, he added.

Salinlahi said the most cases of displacement and forced evacuation of children was recorded in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) in 2006 where 215,060 children were displaced by fighting among the Abu Sayyaf, Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the government.

Since 2001 under the Arroyo administration, 58 children have died in massacres and extra-judicial killings.

Children were considered as indirect victims before, but with the growing number of attacks against them, they are now considered "direct victims" of state violence, Macaspac said.

Jennifer Jadormio, treatment and rehabilitation coordinator of the Children's Rehabilitation Center, said some children who suffered trauma due to violence have found it difficult to cope. *Desiree Caluza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

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SMART celebrates Kadayawan Festival's ethnic roots

Davao's 22nd Kadayawan Festival went back to its indigenous roots, and Smart Communications, Inc. was there to help make it happen.

Ruffa Mae Quinto gets a buss from adoring Davaoeños inside the G-Mall.

With the theme, "Lumadnong Kagikan, Mabungahong Kinaiyahan, Gasa sa Kahitas-an (Indigenous heritage, abundant nature, God's blessings)," this year's thanksgiving celebration had the usual crowd-drawing festivities but was more deliberate in showcasing the Lumad culture and tradition.

Rocksteddy opens its mini-concert with the crowd favorite "Blue Jeans."

For almost two weeks, the Rizal Park at the heart of Davao City served as venue for the eight Lumad tribes – the Tagabawas, Ovu-Manuvu, Kalagan, Tausug, Sama, Maguindanao, Maranao, and Ata - to share with the public their traditional dances, music, and songs.

The Hiyas ng Kadayawan beauty pageant had contestants from each of the tribes, chosen by the tribe members themselves.

The Indak-indak sa Dalan (Dancing in the Street) saw 22 Davao-based groups presenting the life and struggles of the Lumads in colorful, well-choreographed dance exhibitions. First-time entrant Tecarro Foundation College's Panaghoy sa Bukid presentation bagged the top prize.

The annual Floral Float Parade featured a fleet of carriages--decorated ornately with flowers, fruits, ethnic cloths and trinkets—that went around the city's main thoroughfares. The people flocked to the streets not only to cheer their favorite television stars who flew from Manila to join the annual festivities, but also to have their photos taken beside the colorful floats.

Kim Chui disarms the crowd with her sweet smile during the SMART motorcade.

As part of the support it extended to the local government, SMART also decorated the cityscape with banners that contributed to the festive mood.

On Aug. 17, SMART partnered with G-Mall to hold a day-long fair that let Davaoeños try the latest products the telecoms giant currently offers. Those availing of SMART Buddy SIM packs or electronic load were treated to free Internet surfing, massage, henna tattoo, foot-long hotdog sandwich, popcorn, and French fries.

Inside the mall, Talk 'N Text endorser Ruffa Mae Quinto wowed the multitude of SMART fans to her brand of funny entertainment. Meanwhile, the SMART sales team went around in a motorcade, enlivening the city's already jovial atmosphere.

At the G-Mall parking lot, teen heartthrobs Kim Chui and Gerald Anderson had the teenagers swooning, while Rocksteddy rendered feet-stomping and head-banging rock music. Comedian Epi Quizon emceed the night's program.

SMART national sales team head Ting Jimenez (third from right) poses with his team (from left): Paul Generoso, Arnel Ainza, Manny Perez, Gladys Surposa and Judith Braganza.

Many of the local residents and tourists who witnessed the 2007 Kadayawan Festival did not only enjoy the proceedings but were also very appreciative and proud of the emphasis given to the occasion's ethnic beginnings.

In her remarks, acting mayor Sara Duterte said, "The essence of the Kadayawan festival is the generous spirit of the indigenous peoples who embraced and allowed us to partake of the bounty of Davao."

SMART facts about Kadayawan

- *Kadayawan* is derived from the Dabawenyo word "dayaw" that means good, valuable, superior or beautiful.
- The festival began from a government-initiated program called "Unlad Proyekto Davao" in 1986, which sought to unite the Davaoeños and to showcase the city as a peaceful and colorful place to visit and do business in.
- It used to be called *Apo Duwaling* festival, a term coined from the three icons Davao is famous for: Mt. Apo, the country's highest peak; durian, the king of fruits, and waling-waling, the queen of orchids.
- The *Kadayawan* is among the 13 festivals in Mindanao that feature the regions' colorful ethnic heritage, according to the National Commission for Culture and the Arts.
- There are 18 Lumad tribes in Mindanao whose population is reportedly dwindling due to constant threats of being driven from their land due to "development" initiatives.

References: davaotoday.com & kadayawan.com

SMART
THE POWER TO LEAD

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A MUSEUM staffer poses in front of the antigravity mirror. PHOTOS BY ROGER CARPIO

MARIKINA'S OTHER ATTRACTION

Interactive museum makes science fun

By Kristine L. Alave

AT THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE CENtrum in Marikina City, screaming kids, thrilled with the joys of uncapping one adventurous discovery after another, are a normal sight.

Inside the interactive museum where they are encouraged to play with and touch the exhibits, preschool and elementary students cannot contain their excitement and curiosity.

The museum's board members, seated inside the nearby conference room, have gotten used to the shrieks of excited kids. They wait for the noise to die down before they resume their discussions.

The adults actually love the interruptions. For them, it means the children, generally left alone to explore the wonders of science and technology, are making awesome discoveries.

Visited by 300 to 2,000 schoolchildren depending on the season, the center is located in a colorful 2,500-square meter warehouse inside the Marikina City Riverbanks.

Launched in 1990, the Science Centrum is the flagship project of the Philippine Foundation for Science and Technology. It seeks to draw both children and adults into the world of science and discovery.

INTERACTIVE/ A20

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SMART THE POWER TO LEAD

Children's choir makes Smokey Mountain alive with sound of music

By Tina G. Santos

NATIONALIST composer and conductor Jerry Dadap (left) whips the vocal chords of the choir members into shape.

PHOTOS BY REM ZAMORA

FOR MOST PEOPLE, NOTHING good could possibly come out of Smokey Mountain in Tondo, Manila.

"*Akala nila, basta sinabing Smokey Mountain, puro basura lang. Hindi nila alam nakakita kami ng ginto dito* (Whenever you mention Smokey Mountain, all that they think about is trash. They don't know that we have discovered gold here," said Fr. Benigno Beltran, S.V.D.

But Father Ben, as residents of Smokey Mountain fondly call him, was not talking about the money some of his parishioners earn from the waste recovery facility which recently opened at what was once the country's busiest garbage dump.

The 61-year-old priest was referring to the children in the poor community whose talents, he believes, could be used to promote concern for the environment.

"One effective way of conveying the message that we should all race to save Mother Earth is through the performing arts," Beltran said.

Every Saturday, the children gather at the site of the country's first eco-friendly Catholic church which is being constructed in the area.

For nearly four hours, they warm up their vocal chords before they are taught new songs by nationalist composer and conductor Jerry Dadap who has waived his professional fee for this project.

"We only give him (Dadap) gasoline allowance," Beltran said, adding that the choir also receives financial support from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts.

"Father Ben is really doing something to alleviate poverty in this community. I hope I can do my share," Dadap said.

The children—20 boys and girls aged 9 to 14—were chosen from over 100 kids who auditioned and now comprise the Anak ni Inang Daigdig (Smokey Mountain Children's Choir), the younger counterpart of Dadap's 42-year-old chorale group known for rendering patriotic songs, the Andres Bonifacio Choir.

No dance tunes

But don't expect these kids to sing danceable tunes popular among viewers of TV's noontime shows, Dadap said quickly.

"The reason why I'm bombarding them with patriotic music is because we have to counter our noisy culture," he explained. "The kind of culture that our people, especially the children, know these days are contrary to our values, *puro basura* (they are all garbage)."

But apart from songs declaring one's love for the country, Dadap said he teaches the children religious songs and other pieces inspired by the environment, including those composed by Beltran, who has spent about half of his life working patiently to uplift, more than spiritually, the people in the area.

The choir was formed only in June. But this early, Dadap and Beltran said the kids' musical skills have already improved dramatically.

"These are raw talents, they have no background in music but listen to them now," Dadap said with pride.

"They owe it to Jerry. You should see how he trains these kids. He's really intense, passionate," Beltran quipped, disclosing that the children are given only a 10-minute break during choir practices.

It can be tiring for the children but no one complains, he said. "Because it's all worth it, they get better each time." he added.

Given enough time, Dadap believes the children might even surpass the achievements of a famous children's choir from Loboc, Bohol.

This early, Beltran said that he has already received an invitation for the choir to perform next year in Taiwan.

Even the way the children carry themselves has also changed, he observed.

"They now exude confidence," he said, stressing that they even go the extra mile of teaching the kids about proper grooming and manners.

But more than improving their self-esteem, Beltran said he hopes that the children's involvement in the choir would strengthen their social commitment and help them become community leaders later on.

"This is also a means of driving them away from vices," he added.

MOST of the time, the children sing on an empty stomach, says Dadap.

Supportive parents

Fortunately, the choir members' parents have been supportive of the project.

According to Beltran, they initially thought that the parents would get mad because the children would be busy with choir practice and, consequently, would have little time to help out at home.

"But that did not happen. It's so obvious that the parents themselves are proud of their children's achievement," he said.

Florenda Barnachia, 13, a first year high school student, said her parents encouraged her to continue participating in the choir's activities.

"They said it would open a lot of opportunities for me, like meeting new people and traveling to other places," she said in Filipino.

However, Dadap lamented that most of the children attend the practice with empty stomachs.

"Sometimes, they can't focus on the music because they feel sleepy or they lack the energy because they're hungry," Dadap said. "But that will not stop me from motivating them. I know that they can strive to be the best in what they do."

Beltran added, "And apart from being undernourished, remember that the lungs of these kids are really weak because even before they were born, their mothers were inhaling fumes from burning trash."

Both said that they don't want the children's talents to go to waste.

"Many of them have the potential but there has been really very little opportunity for them to hone their skills," they added.

The Lanao del Norte-born Beltran said he organized the choir to complement the Anak ni Inang Daigdig, a cultural dance group formed in 1995 consisting of the community's youth, aged 10 to 28, which trained under the late National Artist for dance, Ramon Obusan.

Two in one

"Anak ni Inang Daigdig is basically a dance group, so we thought of creating a choir to make it complete," he added. "Eventually, we will combine the two groups during performances."

Beltran said the choir is also being trained to sing during Mass at Parish of the Risen Church, where he serves as the parish priest.

The choir is now preparing for a fundraising event to ensure that construction of the "green church" will be completed before the year ends.

Although he and Dadap admitted that training the choir members could be tiring, time-consuming and not financially rewarding, both said they find comfort at the thought that they are dealing with ordinary children with big dreams—and the heart to pursue them.

Interactive museum makes science fun

From page A19

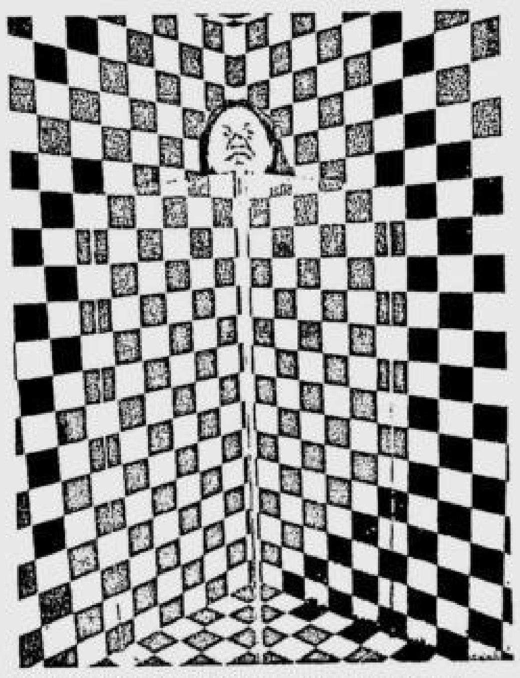
Though small and modest compared to its foreign counterparts, the country's only science center is still an amazing place for children and adults alike.

Dhang Nazar, a 29-year-old who guides visitors around the interactive museum, said the exhibits aim to arouse children's curiosity. Once inside, kids find it difficult to leave.

Unlike other showrooms, guides at the science center let the children fiddle with the exhibits though at the end of the day, employees check the displays for damage. It is not unusual to see items malfunctioning in the middle of instruction.

"The instruction is through self-discovery," explained Nazar. "Kids manipulate the exhibits. There are instructions on how to handle them, with their scientific explanations."

Guides answer questions and "rescue" machines from kids trying to disassemble them.



THE POWER of illusion—a floating head.

Crowd favorites

Among the children's favorites, Nazar said, are the cyclone and tsunami machines.

The cyclone machine, using a motor fan and a vapor generator, shows children how cyclones are formed. On the other hand, the tsunami machine uses an aquarium with a shifting rubber "seabed" to show how a giant wave is produced at the touch of a button.

Results are usually greeted with wide-eyed exclamations of "Wow!" and "*Astig* (Cool)!" Future scientists were easy to spot—they had the most questions, Nazar said.

Another crowd-pleaser is the Van de Graaf exhibit, a large sphere of steel that illustrates the principle of electrostatic electricity. When someone touches the sphere, his hair stands on end because of the strong positive charges repelling each strand. Nazar said children got a kick out of seeing their hair rise, so it was difficult to get them out of the room.

The Wonder House, inspired by an exhibit in a Chinese museum, is another popular attraction, especially among rowdy boys. From the outside, the room appears to be ordinary. But inside, people are surprised and feel disoriented as the room is tilted.

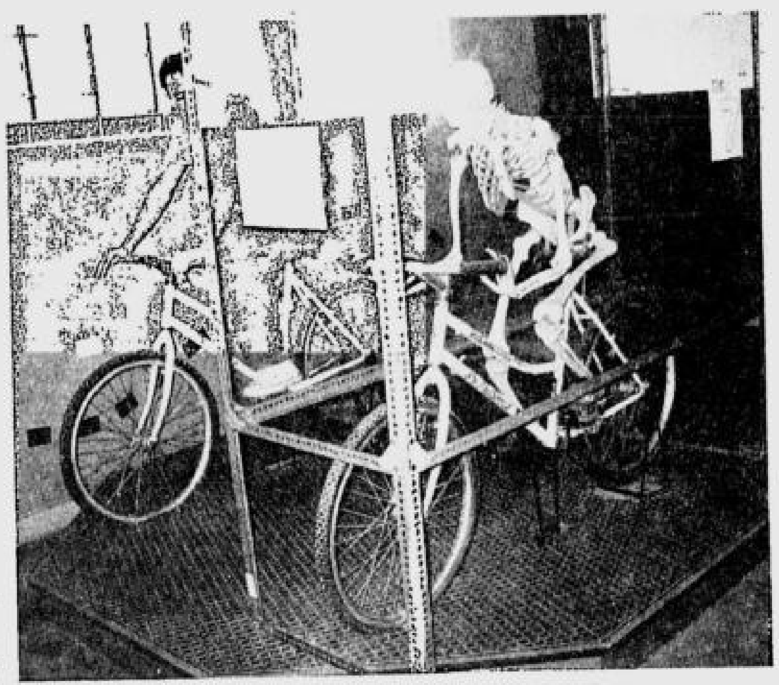
They often feel dizzy or their movements feel heavier. Some feel nauseous.

"The place tests one's sense of perception and balance. When we say house, we know it is supposed to be flat. But once inside the Wonder House, our brain takes a while to register that it is tilted," Nazar explained.

Children are often heard shrieking from surprise, delight and possibly, vertigo.

Nazar said it was the top favorite of the more raucous, "macho" boys. They went inside again and again, as if to prove to their classmates that they were brave.

To date, over 2.9 million students, teachers and adults have visited the PSC. Over 1.3 million Filipinos in the provinces have shared the experience and excitement through the PSC's Adventures in Discovery and Sci-Fun Caravan.



IN WATCH-ME-PEDAL, one can race alongside a skeleton.

Traveling caravan

At present, there are two caravans traveling to various parts of the country, stopping in schools and barangay halls to let children and adults in remote areas "self-discover" the fundamentals of science.

A third caravan is set to be launched in November.

The Riverbanks center has 10 science galleries: Science Works, Mathematics, Lights, Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism, Vision and Perception, Earth Science, Cyberworks, Body Works and the newest, the Meralco Corner.

The museum also has a DIWA reading corner with computers, learning materials and textbooks.

For children aged 2 to 9, the center has a gallery designed as a playroom. It features activities geared at enhancing motor and social skills. It has a Ball Pit, Pillow Geometry, Build Me Up, Bernoulli Challenge and Rock Wall.

PSC workers said the museum was not only open to students on field trips. It also encouraged families to visit the museum instead of malling.

Mae Pagsinohin, operating manager, said the museum, a privately-held enterprise supported by the Departments of Science and Technology and Education, was increasingly being recognized abroad. Expansion was definitely being planned.

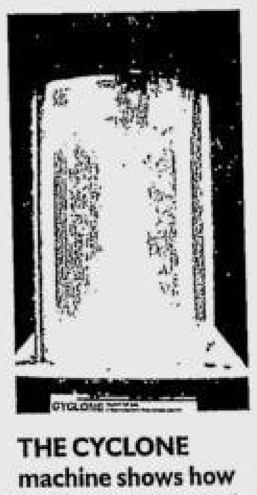
With an annual budget of only P12 million, the PSC makes its own exhibits.

Every year, museum engineers and science experts visit science centers and museums abroad to get inspiration and learn new methods of presenting science in a fun way.

"We make our own exhibits. We don't have the resources to import. We are creative enough to make our own," Pagsinohin said.

As a result, she said the museum's engineers had been commissioned by private educational institutions here and abroad to make set pieces for them.

For the past three years, the science centrum has sent some exhibits to Brunei Darussalam. A company in Kathmandu, Nepal is also exploring the possibility of the PSC helping them with their own fledgling museum.



THE CYCLONE machine shows how cyclones are formed.

Science experts from government and private agencies also help make the exhibits.

The tsunami tank, for instance, was a "baby" of Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology chief Renato Solidum. The project was conceived after the 2004 tsunami that devastated much of the Asian region.

Pagsinohin said they were seeking support from private companies to upgrade the exhibits. She said the museum also wanted to put up displays on biotechnology and information technology in the future.

THE MUSEUM literally drives children up the (rock) wall.

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This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world, and wherever work can be contracted to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

From banana cue to real estate, Pinay now sells RP to the world

By Arnel Medrano
Contributor

WHO'S THAT GIRL? If the company she keeps is any indication, then Susan Barlin, with US Sen. Hillary Clinton at a convention of the US National Association of Realtors, has gone a long, long way from her humble beginnings in Malabon.

SHE SPENT PART OF HER YOUTH IN MALABON selling sugar-coated banana on stick just to send herself to school and support her younger siblings, not knowing she was destined to sell much bigger things.

Selling she still does but no more banana cues for her. And she plies her trade no longer in Malabon but in the world outside: the United States and far beyond.

Susan Barlin has made it big selling prime real estate in various parts of the world to the global marketplace.

Now, this onetime small entrepreneur is again making a name, no longer for herself but for the Philippines—selling the country and the rest of tropical Asia as the world's premier second-home and property investment destination and retirement haven.

Her efforts have caught the attention of the Department of Tourism, which has appointed her as its special envoy for investment and tourism promotion.

"After all, that's what I've been doing all these years," Barlin says, referring to her trips around the world year-in and year-out to promote the Philippines and Asia's tropical region to the international market.

Voice of real estate

"That's part of my business as a certified international property specialist," Barlin says in Filipino. "Making the Philippines and Asia as the focal point of my sales pitches is part of my being a Filipino and an Asian."

Barlin is the chief executive officer of the Barlin Group of Companies, which comprises the Barlin & Associates Realty Inc., Barlin International Group, Barlin Commercial Property Management, First Home Loans Inc., Media Consultants Inc. and Advance Graphix Design & Print, all based in the US.

Both owned and run by Barlin, Media Consultants Inc. is the publisher of South Bay Balita, Planet Philippines and Loans 101 Magazine, while Advance Graphix publishes and manages the Kababayan Homebuyers' Guide magazine.

Barlin is also the editor in chief of the International Real Estate Magazine, which is circulated in 27 countries worldwide.

Her achievements made her an easy pick for the post of president liaison to the Philippines of the 1.3 million-strong National Realtors Association, the voice of real estate in the US and an influential member of the International Confederation of Real Estate Associations (ICREA), an alliance of 24 international realtor associations worldwide.

"As such, traveling becomes part of my life's routine, and the best way that I can make it relevant to my country and region is to promote them wherever I go," Barlin says.

Top 12 choices for 2nd home

It was in one of her trips that the prospect of the Philippines and Asia becoming a second home and retirement hub dawned on Barlin.

"I've realized that we (tropical Asia) have as much, if not more, to offer than Central and South America and the Mediterranean region to the world's millions of second-home buyers, a trillion-dollar market that we cannot afford to miss," Barlin says. "Otherwise, our own property industry will be left out in this global craze for vacation and retirement homes."

At present, the world's top 12 choices for second homes are Panama, France, Malta, Mexico, Romania, Italy, Nicaragua, Uruguay, New Zealand, Belize, Spain and Chile.

"But that's because the global second-home market hasn't heard or seen much about tropical Asia, particularly the Philippines, which ought to be on top of that list," she says.

"Ours is a beautiful country and region with very affordable real estate, competitive labor costs, lower cost of living, and nice tropical climate where the icy world can run to during cold winter and where many speak English."

She says that in the Philippines, for example, a foreigner's regular dollar income can afford him a driver, a househelp, or even a nurse if he is a retiree.

> She's pitching for RP as a second home and retirement hub to foreigners by telling them that here they can live like kings

"And he can live like a king while enjoying the beauty and bounties of our country's nature and the hospitality of our people. At the same time, the dollars these foreigners will spend in the Philippines can create jobs and help improve our economy."

Barlin says this sector of the tourism market may seem new to Filipinos, pointing out the Philippine real estate industry is not even represented in the Sima (Salon Imobiliario de Madrid).

Bringing the world to Asia

She describes the Sima as Europe's biggest annual real estate expo and conference, offering 38,000 square meters of exhibit space and attracting thousands of industry professionals and exhibitors yearly. It had 140,000 attendees in 2005 and 156,000 in 2006.

"An event of this magnitude, when held in the Philippines, could boost both our tourism and real estate industries," Barlin says.

She says Europe is getting very expensive for the average exhibitor or second-home buyers.

"So, why not hold an event like Sima in the more affordable Asia, or in the Philippines. And since I've been promoting the Philippines and Asia to the world, I've thought of bringing the world to Asia, instead," Barlin adds.

She says this was how she arrived at the idea of staging the 1st Asian Real Estate Expo and Conference (AIREEC) at the Philippine International Convention Center on Dec. 6-10 this year. (Event details at www.aireec.com)

Hard work, studies

AIREEC is projected to bring in more than 5,000 visitors from some 50 countries worldwide, according to the US-based Expo and Convention Promotion Inc. (ECPI), whose support Barlin has gained for her vision.

ECPI president Leon Katz has signed a memorandum of cooperation with Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace H. Durano for that project.

"Now all three of us—ECPI, DOT and the Barlin Group—will just have to pull our act together to make AIREEC successful," Barlin says.

Barlin didn't get to the peak of her career in a single bounce. With her humble beginnings in the Philippines, she beefed up her credentials through hard work and studies.

Her hard work as a real estate broker paid off, not just in millions of dollars worth of sales, but more so in numerous prestigious awards she has earned as an exceptional entrepreneur and outstanding business and community leader in California.

Barlin is also a member of the CEO Clubs Worldwide, which has over 10,000 members in the US, China, Korea, Japan, India, Pakistan and the Middle East.

Why the US can't drive away all illegal migrants

IMFO

Lourdes Santos Tancinco

MORE THAN 3,200 ADMINistrative arrests have been made this fiscal year by the US Department of Homeland Security as a result of immigration enforcement measures. With the failure to pass the immigration reform bill, the Bush Administration announced last week its plans for tougher interior enforcement of US immigration laws.

There are an estimated 12 million undocumented workers in the US at the present time. Attempts to legalize the stay of these workers failed in the first six months of Congress with the US Senate failing to pass the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act twice.

The Department of Homeland Security announced that in 30 days, it will send "no match" letters to employers of "possible" undocumented workers. The "no match" letters indicate that a worker's social security number provided to the employer does not match the name on the Social Security Administration's records.

This usually happens for workers who do not have valid social security numbers or undocumented workers who use fake social security numbers. These "no match" of employee names and numbers, however, could also be a result of clerical errors, name changes (example, married names), or stolen identities; hence, these "no match" letters asking employers for an explanation.

No match

In the past, when an employer receives a "no match" letter from the Social Security Administration, the employer usually ignores the instructions to explain the discrepancy. Last week, the US Department of Homeland Security announced that together with the no match letter, a letter from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will also be sent giving specific instructions to the employer on how to handle the no match letter.

The ICE letter will also contain a warning about serious liabilities if the employer does not respond. If no valid explanation is made by the employer within 93 days from receipt of the letter, the worker referred to in the no match letter is probably an undocumented worker and that actual knowledge of hiring undocumented aliens will be imputed to the employer at the risk of facing penalties and possible prosecution.

The process described in the ICE letter is referred to as Safe Harbor Procedures for Employers. This means that the employers who cooperate and comply with the law are provided a legal path for safe harbor against liability.

The US Department of Homeland Security stated in its press release that the "magnet that bring most economic migrants into this country is work. And if we have worksite enforcement directed at illegal employment, we strike at the magnet." Department of Homeland Security cautions the employers who then fail to comply with stricter enforcement measures that they are going to be facing both civil penalties of up to $11,000 per illegal employee and criminal prosecution.

Targeting employers

The administration is obviously bent on targeting employers of undocumented aliens. The employees who are numbering approximately 12 million are now in the US performing jobs that are essential to make vital US industries work. The agricultural, restaurant, healthcare and construction industries are expected to be greatly affected by this new policy. There is already hostility created among agricultural farm owners on these new measures because of the fear that during the agricultural harvest season time not enough workers will be available to harvest the produce.

California's Senator Dianne Feinstein, who sponsored a bill to reform the agricultural sector, states that the tougher measure taken by the administration against the employer is a band-aid approach that will not "stop the looming crisis American agriculture will face this fall." She identifies the consequential effect and "crisis that crops will not be harvested."

It is predicted that there will be significant lay-off of workers who will not be able to explain the discrepancies in social security numbers. As is, labor unions, business groups and immigrants advocates foresee closure of many business affected by the forced layoffs.

If only there is a replacement workforce to these industries, then the employers will not be facing tough decisions. However, their choice is between a rock and a hard place. They terminate their employees; they will be forced to close their businesses. The agricultural sector will be severely affected as it is estimated that two-thirds of their workers are illegal aliens.

This fall, it is expected that there will be less and less produce in the grocery store because of the projected harvest crisis. This will be one of the many series of ripples created by the "band-aid" approach of the Bush Administration. The law that is being enforced is indeed a broken immigration law that needs overhaul fixing not tougher enforcement measures that drives more people into the underground economy.

More families will suffer forced separations and businesses will continue to be adversely affected if US immigration laws are not amended. A comprehensive immigration reform that really works in a growing economy should be passed by US Congress. Enforcement only approach is not the solution. It is a compounding problem.

(IMFO stands for Immigration Information. Tancinco may be reached at law@tancinco.com or at (632)887-7177.)

3 UK soldiers die in Afghan 'friendly fire'

CAMP BASTION, AFGHANISTAN—INVESTIGATIONS WERE under way Saturday into the killing of three British soldiers in a bomb dropped by a US fighter jet and intended for Afghanistan's Taliban rebels.

The "friendly fire" incident in the southern province of Helmand late Thursday was one of the deadliest in a string of such mistakes in the intensifying international campaign against the al-Qaida-backed Taliban.

The British soldiers were struck by a bomb dropped by a US F-15 jet called in to help during a fierce battle near the massive Kajaki Dam, which troops are fighting to secure from the hardline Taliban militia.

Three were killed outright and two wounded. The injured were Saturday at the main British base in Afghanistan, Camp Bastion in Helmand, awaiting repatriation.

The United States confirmed the deaths had been caused by a US bomb and said an inquiry would be launched.

The United States was "deeply saddened," said Kurt Volker, the US principal deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian Affairs.

"We will investigate this tragic incident thoroughly with our British allies," he said on Friday. "We are committed to making information available as quickly as possible."

The British army and the Nato-led International Security Assistance Force, under which the troops were serving, also announced immediate investigations.

The soldiers were from the Royal Anglian Regiment which was deployed five months ago to some of the most difficult parts of Afghanistan, including Kajaki and the Taliban hotbed of Sangin further south.

At Kajaki, they go on regular foot patrols to test the limits of a four-kilometer "security bubble" British forces have set up around the Kajaki Dam, a major supplier of water and, potentially, electricity.

These patrols usually come into contact with Taliban fighters and regularly call in air power. *AFP*

China plans tougher laws on sex-selective abortions

BEIJING—FEARING THE APPROACH OF A ticking "bachelor bomb," China is planning tougher laws against sex-selective abortions that have boosted the number of boys in recent years, state media said Saturday.

The State Council, or cabinet, is drafting special regulations that specify punishments for parents and doctors who abort fetuses after discovering they are female, the Xinhua news agency reported.

Abortions motivated merely by gender are already illegal in China, but existing laws do not describe the applicable punishment for such acts, according to Xinhua. It gave no timetable for the new rules.

The sex ratio among Chinese toddlers is becoming ever more skewed as a direct result of the nation's one-child policy.

Couples that cannot give birth to an unlimited number of children are more likely to abort female fetuses in hopes of having a much-wanted son.

"The root cause is traditional thinking that boys are better than girls, especially in poverty-stricken areas," said Song Jiang, a population expert at Beijing's Renmin University. "Those people expect boys to support the family."

In some parts of the vast country, sex-selective abortions have caused a situation where there are more than three boys for every two girls, Xinhua said in a separate report.

In a particularly striking example, there are 163.5 boys for every 100 girls in the city of Lianyungang in east China's Jiangsu province, according to Xinhua.

The data are from the state-controlled China Family Planning Association, which said in a survey that 99 cities had sex ratios higher than 125 boys to 100 girls.

Previously published figures showed that the national average in China in 2005 was nearly 119 boys to every 100 girls.

The average global sex ratio at birth is about 105 under "natural" conditions. *AFP*

FAIRY tale climax—Prince Charles and Diana the Princess of Wales on the balcony of Buckingham Palace on their wedding day in picture taken on July 29, 1981. AFP

UK still coming to terms with Diana's death

By Jill Lawless

LONDON—THE MOUNDS OF flowers are long gone from the gates of Kensington Palace, but the presence of Princess Diana lingers.

It has been 10 years since Diana's death in a Paris car crash, when many Britons were poleaxed by grief for a vivacious and troubled woman who was at once princess, style icon, charity worker and tabloid celebrity.

The Aug. 31 anniversary will be marked with a nationally televised memorial service, specially commissioned prayers—and soul-searching in a country still unsure whether its sudden outpouring of emotion was a moment of madness or a fundamental softening of the stiff upper lip.

"A decade on," columnist Jonathan Freedland wrote recently in The Guardian newspaper, "we look back and wonder what came over us."

Diana, 36, and her boyfriend Dodi Fayed, 42, were killed along with chauffeur Henri Paul when their car crashed in the Pont d'Alma tunnel in Paris on Aug. 31, 1997.

In the days that followed, an estimated one million bouquets were left outside Diana's Kensington Palace home. More than a million people lined the route of her funeral procession.

In grieving for Diana, "people were mourning some aspect of themselves," said Ingrid Seward, author of "The Queen and Di: The Untold Story."

When she died, Diana was the most famous woman in the world, the star of soap opera that gripped millions. She had married heir to the throne Prince Charles in 1981 in a ceremony at St. Paul's Cathedral televised around the world. They had two sons, William and Harry, but divorced in 1996 after admissions of adultery on both sides.

"She and the Prince of Wales could have been the best double act the country has ever had," said Ken Wharfe, who served as Diana's Scotland Yard bodyguard between 1986 and 1993. "But it didn't work out." *AP*

WorldBriefs

Burma protesters sent to notorious prison

RANGOON—A group of 13 activists arrested for organizing a rally against Burma's junta over its massive hike in fuel prices have been sent to the country's notorious Insein prison, a source said Saturday. The prison is home to some of the nation's estimated 1,100 political prisoners, and international rights groups have alleged abuse and torture were rampant there. The activists include Min Ko Naing, who is considered the most prominent prodemocracy leader in Burma (also known as Myanmar) after detained opposition leader and Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. They were arrested Tuesday for leading a peaceful march Sunday through Rangoon (Yangon), which drew 500 protesters in the biggest antigovernment rally here in at least nine years. *AFP*

Sales of morning-after pill nearly doubles

WASHINGTON—Sales of the Plan B "morning-after pill" nearly doubled in the past year, exceeding expectations after the US government allowed adults to buy the emergency contraceptive without a prescription. A three-year battle ended last August when the Food and Drug Administration decided that women and men 18 and older could buy the Barr Pharmaceuticals Inc. product without a doctor's order if they showed proof of age at a pharmacy. "More women know about it, and it's just becoming much more part of their mainstream reproductive health care," Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards said. Plan B pills contain higher doses of progestin, a hormone used in prescription birth-control pills for 35 years. Two Plan B pills reduce odds of pregnancy by 89 percent if taken within 72 hours of sexual intercourse, studies show. *Reuters*

Raymond Barre, French premier; 83

BARRE

PARIS—Raymond Barre, a prominent economist who served as French prime minister during the presidency of Valery Giscard d'Estaing in the 1970s, has died Saturday aged 83, his family announced. Barre, who his mentor Giscard described as "the best economist in France" when he appointed him premier in August 1976, died at the Val de Grâce military hospital in Paris, where he had been since suffering cardiac problems in April. Before his stint as prime minister, which lasted until Giscard was ousted by the Socialist Francois Mitterrand in May 1981, Barre had been best known as the writer of a weighty economics textbook that was required reading for a generation of French university students. Giscard on Saturday paid tribute to Barre, calling him "a statesman who did not pursue any personal aims but tried to ensure the wellbeing of our country through exceptional competence and untiring work." *AFP*

Bush plans no major change in Iraq military strategy

WASHINGTON—THE WHITE HOUSE hopes to keep in place its existing military strategy and troop levels in Iraq even after a mid-September report by the top US military commander in the country, General David Petraeus, and Ambassador Ryan Crocker, The Washington Post reported on its website late Friday.

The newspaper said that White House officials had said privately they were not contemplating making major shifts before early next year.

They said that next month's report is likely to highlight what they see as significant improvements in security in Iraq over the past year and that they expect Bush to assert that now is not the time to dramatically change his approach, the report said.

One senior White House official expressed the prevailing mood, saying he does not expect a "wholesale change in plans" next month, The Post said.

But White House officials said they do expect Petraeus and Bush to begin outlining what a "post-surge" strategy might look like, the paper said.

They said the key date is April 2008, when the military will have to begin bringing units home unless it is willing to extend troop rotations from 15 to 18 months, according to the report.

Another senior official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity, said he expects the US presence to return to pre-"surge" levels of 15 combat brigades and about 130,000 troops a year from now, down from about 160,000, the paper said.

"We all know where we want to get to," The Post quoted the official as saying. "We all know that there will be a long-term robust troop presence that will outlast this president."

All officials cautioned that the situation is fluid, the report pointed out. Many fully expect the insurgents to attempt a spectacular attack in the next several weeks, and several said they have not heard even privately from Petraeus about the contents of his report.

They said they expect the top US commander in Iraq to give the White House some preliminary idea of his thinking sometime in the next week.

The question for the White House is whether the prospect of keeping a large force in Iraq will survive the politics of Congress, where Democrats are pushing for steep reductions, The Post said.

Bush is also likely to come under pressure from some military advisers to accelerate the reductions because of concerns that US forces might get overstretched. *AFP*

Rivals in astronaut love triangle face each other in court

SHIPMAN AP

ORLANDO, FLA.—THE FIRST TIME Capt. Lisa M. Nowak met Capt. Colleen Shipman was seven months ago in a parking lot at Orlando International Airport. They were together again on Friday, in a tense courtroom.

Nowak, a Naval officer and a former astronaut, spoke quietly and appeared self-assured as she testified at a pretrial hearing involving charges that she had tried to kidnap Shipman, a romantic rival, who is in the Air Force, after a marathon drive from Texas to Florida.

For her part, Shipman appeared tense and drawn, and her expression seemed to combine anger and distrust as she heard Nowak ask the court to let her remove the ankle monitor she had been forced to wear since her release from jail.

Nowak, somber on the stand in a black pinstripe pantsuit, said the monitor was expensive, uncomfortable and kept her from exercising. She pledged to stay out of Brevard County, Shipman's home.

Nowak's lawyer, Donald A. Lykkebak, called Shipman to the stand against her wishes, but she spoke calmly about her desire to have the monitor stay firmly on Nowak's ankle. Lykkebak countered that Shipman "took it upon herself four times to go to the very state and the very city where my client lives" to see her boyfriend.

Shipman did not spell out whether she was referring to Cmdr. William A. Oefelein of the Navy, who was at the center of the love triangle. She said she felt safe when she was with her boyfriend, but she said of the ankle bracelet, "When I'm home alone and there's nobody there with me, it is a comfort."

Much of the day was spent in questioning William C. Becton, the Orlando police detective who interviewed Nowak after her arrest and searched her car. Through his questions, Lykkebak sought to portray Becton as a crafty practitioner of cat-and-mouse games who had pushed Nowak into talking without effectively explaining her constitutional right to refuse to cooperate.

Becton stood by his methods and said he had fully informed Nowak of her rights. *NYT*

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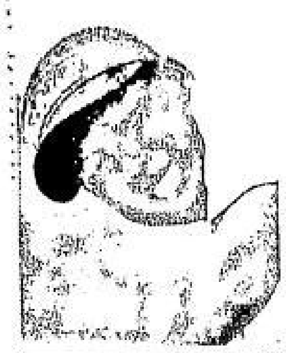

WHAT'S INSIDE
Lascuña climbs to 2nd with 67 /A24

NFL slaps indefinite ban on Falcons' star /A25

Archers keep 2nd spot; Eagles score

By Musong R. Castillo

ATENEO FINALLY STOPPED THE bleeding and La Salle kept chugging along.

The bitter rivals fashioned out contrasting wins over separate foes yesterday as one streak ended and another continued going into the homestretch of the UAAP men's basketball eliminations.

Ateneo held Far Eastern to three points in a critical six-minute span in the fourth to hammer out an 83-75 decision that snapped a three-game losing streak at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

And while the Eagles seemed happy to blow back into the hunt for a place in the Final Four, the Archers slowly but surely put a lock on the No. 2 spot, bombarding a hapless University of the Philippines to submission, 89-61, in the first game.

It was the third straight win for the Green Archers, who improved to 8-3 overall, a full three games ahead of joint second placers Ateneo and idle defending champion Santo Tomas at 5-4.

Far Eastern dropped to 5-5, just outside the magic circle of four teams that will advance to the semifinals.

Second place could be of utmost importance at the end of the double round eliminations, for in the event of a sweep by University of the East, the team that finishes with the second-best record draws a bye in the stepladder semifinals.

The Red Warriors are unbeaten in 10 games and four more wins would give them an outright seat in the best-of-three Finals.

"I like where we are right now, because our fate is in our hands," La Salle coach Franz Pumaren, after getting five players in twin digits in the lopsided win, said. "With three games to go, what we want is the No. 2 spot."

GAMES TODAY
(Araneta Coliseum)
2 p.m.—Adamson vs UE
4 p.m.—UST vs NU

Clayford Arao got a rare start and shot a career-high 22 points, eight of them in the final period, to pace Ateneo.

Do-it-all swingman Chris Tiu also had eight in the fourth period and some crucial feeds to finish with 19 as the Eagles finally won after more than a month.

"We went into the game not knowing what to expect because we have been on a break for so long," Eagles coach Norman Black said. "We just played better defense and we did a good job breaking their (Tamaraws') press."

The Eagles, the losing finalists last year, broke the game's last tie at 65 with a 14-3 bomb presided upon by Tiu and the 6-foot-5 Arao as Ateneo put the game to bed with a 79-68 lead heading into the final 2:17.

Far Eastern was actually ahead, 65-64 after a Reil Cervantes jumper with just under eight minutes remaining.

But it proved to be the Tamaraws final stand.

The scores:

First Game

LA SALLE 89—Casio 17, Walsham 14, Ilad 13, Tang 12, Maierhofer 10, Malabes 7, Co 6, Villanueva 5, Atkins 3, Barua 2, Ferdinand 0, Lee 0, Cua 0.

UP 61—Serios 15, De Asis 11, Gamboa 11, Reyes 7, Rivera 6, Co 3, Epres 3, Lopez 3, Dela Victoria 2, Marfori 0, Wong 0, Rosales 0, Hipolito 0, Agbayani 0.

Quarters: 27-11; 50-23; 72-41; 89-61

Second Game

ATENEO 83—Arao 22, Tiu 19, Long 10, Laterre 9, Salamat 7, Reyes 5, Al-Hussaini 5, Monfort 4, Escueta 2, Austria 0, Nkemakolam 0, Baclao 0.

FEU 75—Baracael 21, Cawaling 13, Sanga 8, Fernandez 7, Cervantes 6, Barroca 6, Adolfo 5, Abaring 2, Knuttel 2, Ramos 2, Tanuan 2, Cabagnot 1, Alisbo 0, Reyes 0.

Quarters: 24-20; 47-46; 61-57; 83-75

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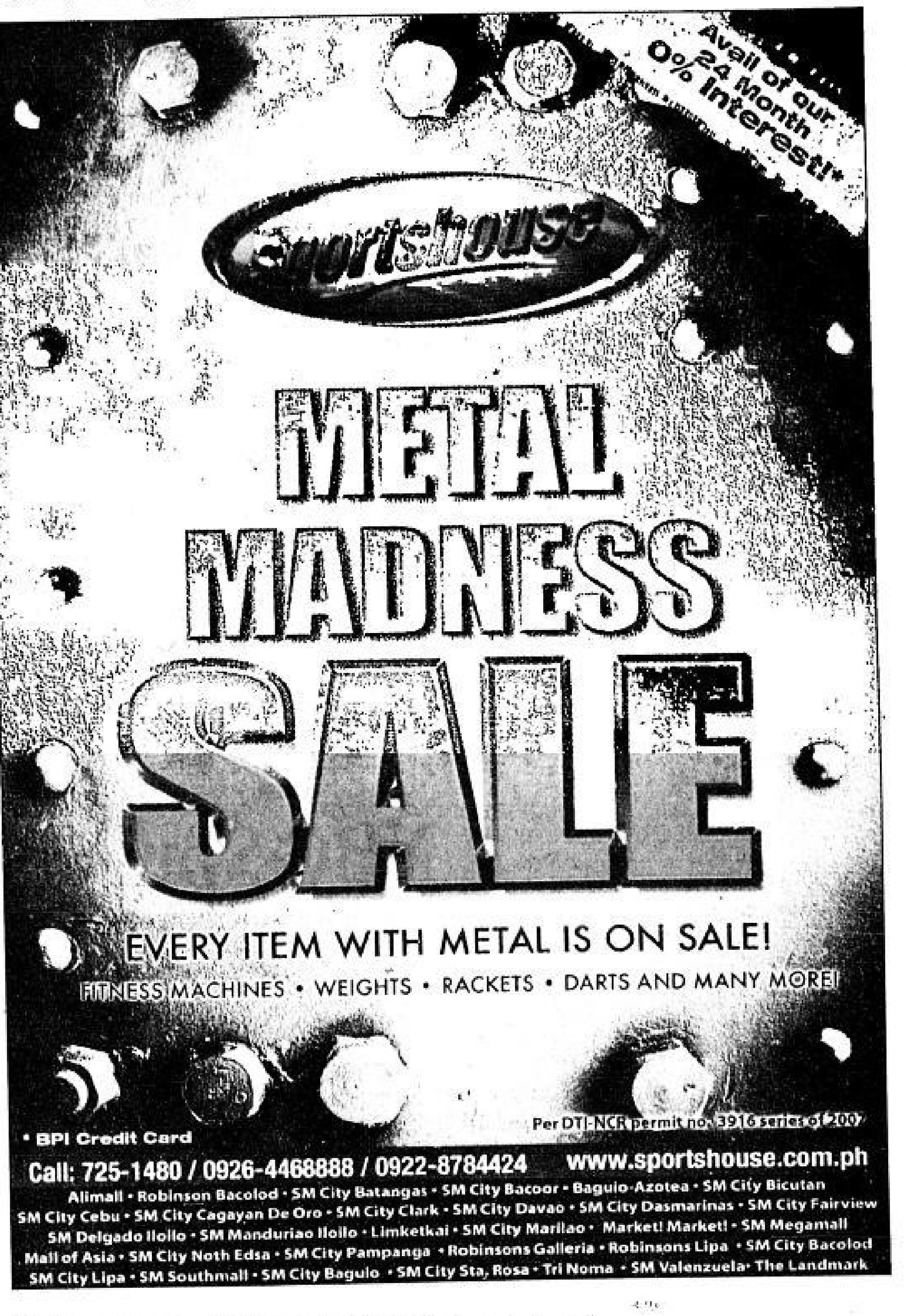

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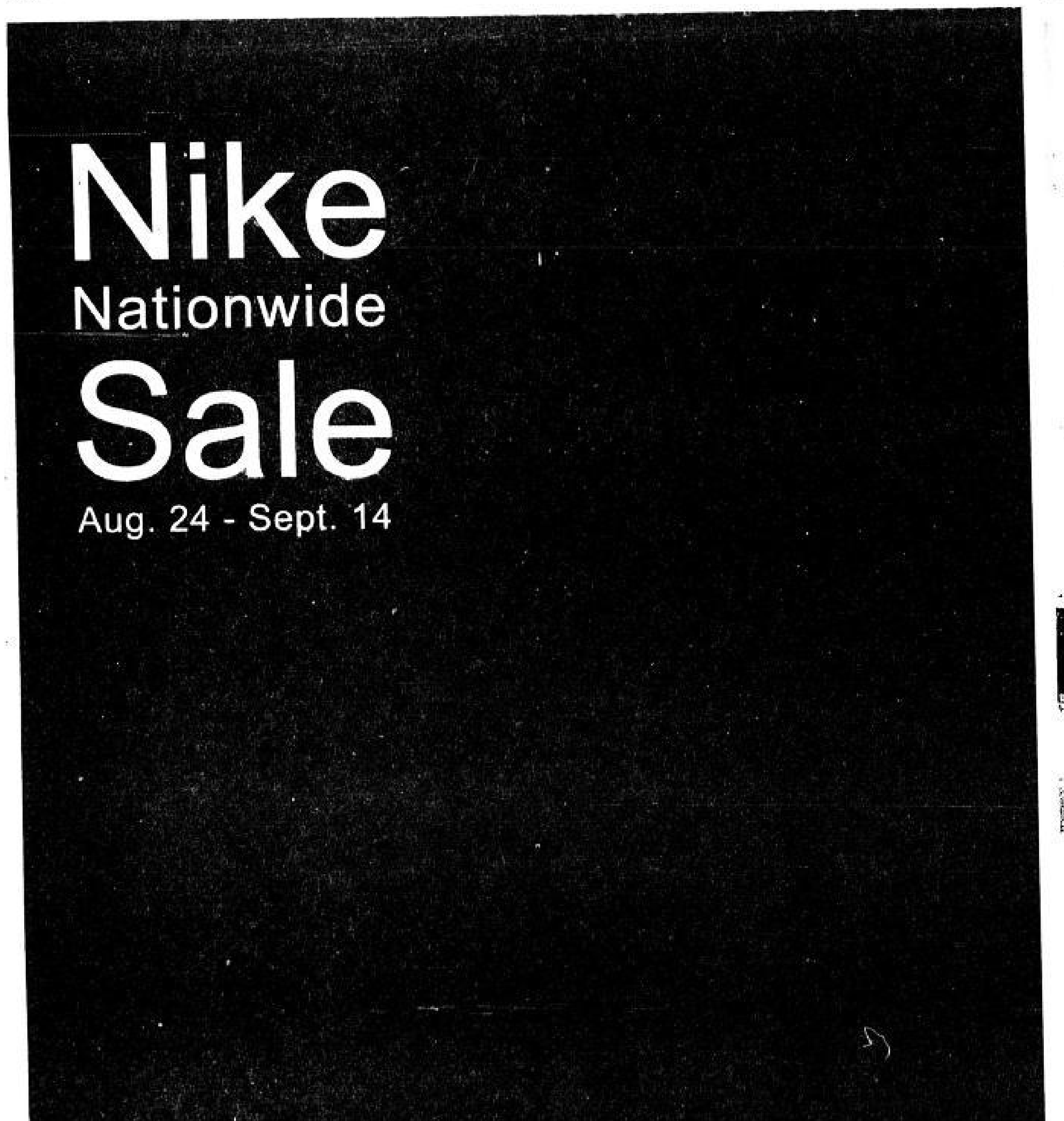

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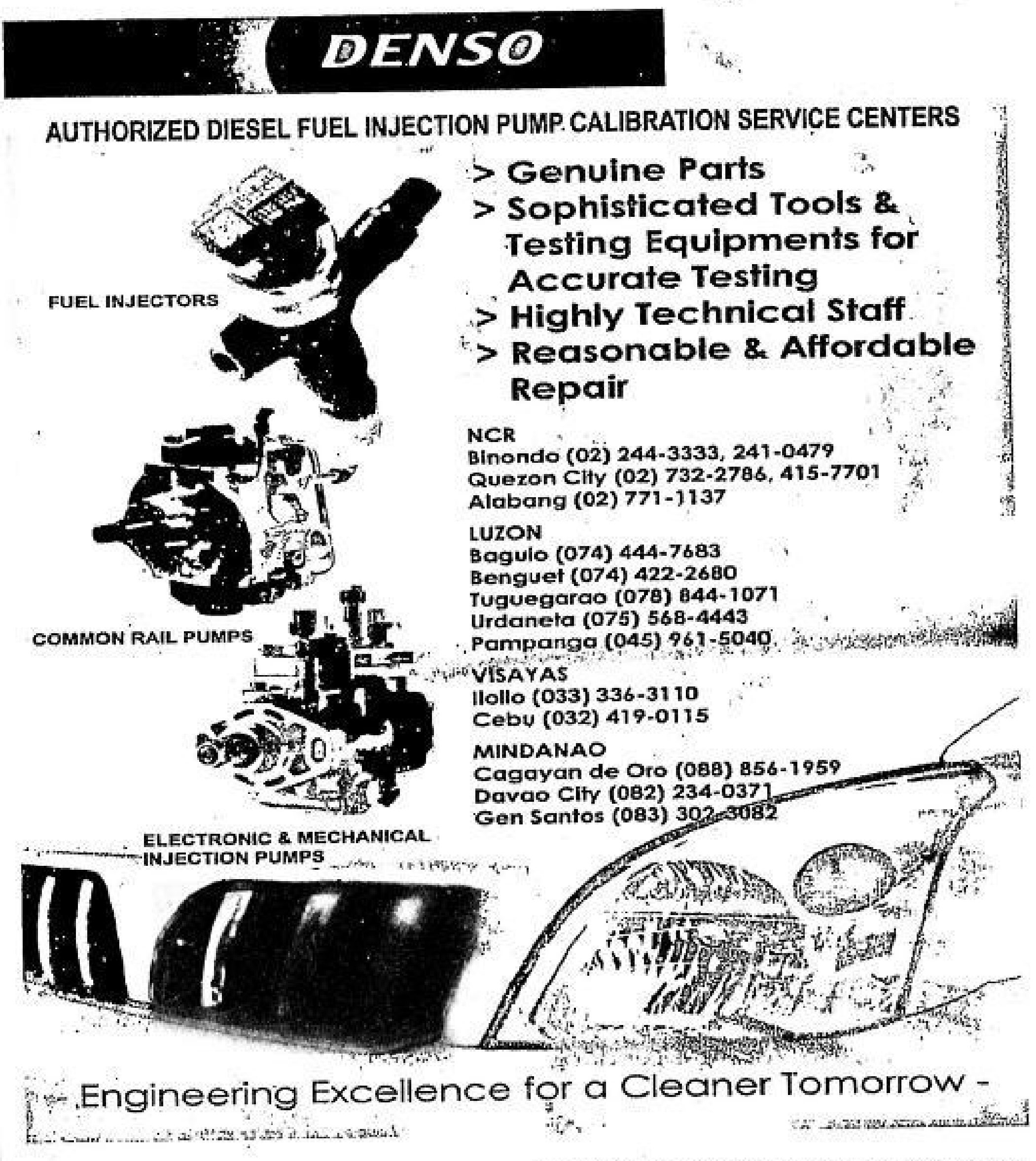

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Tagle gains World Final

BUSINESSMAN MARC TAGLE, REPRESENTING Team CATS Motors-Philippines, came through with 70 points via the Stableford system in the Asian Final in Queensland, Australia, last week to bag a slot in the MercedesTrophy World Final.

The World Final will be played in September in Stuttgart, Germany, where champions of the other regions will compete in the event exclusive for Mercedes-Benz owners.

Tagle, who excelled in the National Final in Santa Elena last May, bucked a poor start at the Hope Island course. He shot a two-over 34 points in the final day at the Glades layout but it wasn't enough to lift Team CATS to the Nation Cup award, which was won by Malaysia. Thailand placed second and Taiwan third.

The CATS team, however, earned the best team spirit award.

Tagle and teammates Ralph Lantion, Varun Berry, Luis Banson, Walter Villanueva, Ernie Alberto, CATS Motors president and delegation head Felix Ang and PR director and country captain Emy Arcilla also joined the Active Safety Driving program at the Mount Cotten Training Center.

Tagle and the team thanked CATS Motors chair Greg Yu, Ang and Arcilla for their unwavering support.

Lascuña climbs to 2nd with 67

ANTONIO Lascuña knocks at first Asian Tour title. ROMY HOMILLADA

JOHOR BHARU—ASIAN TOUR ROOKIE Tony Lascuña came out of nowhere to move menacingly close to a breakthrough win, shooting a four-under-par 67 yesterday to tie for second place after three rounds of the Iskandar Johor Open.

The unheralded Filipino, who had earlier rounds of 72-71, gunned down five birdies against an opening-hole bogey and at 210 stood a shot off new leader Gaurav Ghei of India, who was at 209 after a 70.

Tied with Lascuña were 2005 Philippine Open winner Adam Le Vesconte of Australia, who rallied with a 69, and American Jason Knutzon, who had a share of the lead with Ghei until he bogeyed the 18th for a 70.

Artemio Murakami, another Filipino underdog, actually stood at 4-under for the tournament like Ghei but he double bogeyed the final hole to finish with a 69 and take solo fifth slot with a 211 total.

Murakami, a former RP amateur titlist, toured the front nine with a 4-under 32 on the par-71 Royal Johor Country Club course but struggled on the back with two birdies, two bogeys and that 6 on the par-4 18th.

Veteran Gerald Rosales was the next best Filipino campaigner at 216 after strugging to a 76. Mars Pucay carded a 73 for 218, Jerome Delariarte had a 75 for 219, Juvic Pagunsan made a 74 for 200 and Angelo Que stumbled with an 83 for 229.

Korea's Lee Sung joined Australia's Unho Park and Knutzon at the top of the pack after the completion of the second round Saturday morning.

But only Knutzon managed to stay in contention with Lee scoring a 78 after a 69 for 216 and Park ballooning to an 81 for 219.

Airil Rizman enjoyed a solid home run with a 72 to place joint sixth at 212 with Sung Maochan of Taipei, who shot a 68.

Gavin Flint of Australia had the day's only other 67 that moved him to 213 with four others in the inaugural edition of this $300,000 event, which marks the start of the second half of this year's Tour.

Guioguio prevails

CEBU—LOVELYN GUIOGUIO CLINCHED her third straight individual title and powered Del Monte to a title repeat in the Diamond division of the WGAP Luzvimin Golf Invitational tournament on Friday at the Cebu Country Club course here.

Guioguio, an Ateneo Golf Foundation Scholar, turned in 52 points or two-over-par in medal play but still coasted to an eight-point win over local bet Kathleen Uy.

Eva Minoza tallied 50 while Kristine Leonen and Marian Woo had a 49 and 46, respectively, for Del Monte's 197 for the day that gave the Bukidnon golfers a three-day total of 593.

Apple Fudolin and Maribel San Miguel were the other Del Monte members.

NBC Spring Oil joins Taiwan tilt

REDEMPTION WILL BE ON HIS mind when former national coach Boysie Zamar handles anew the NBC (National Basketball Conference) Spring Cooking Oil basketball team in the annual Kwan Hu Invitational Cup tournament in Hua Lien, Taiwan, on Oct. 3-8.

Two years ago, Zamar and his all-Filipino Spring Cooking Oil squad nearly made it to the finals of the event. Zamar's boys lost in double overtime to the European-reinforced Jeotai team and missed the finals.

Zamar is bent on making up for that heartbreaker, bringing along with him this time Firefly-Iligan's Marlon Kalaw, MVP of the recent NBC finals, and Dondon Villamin and Mar Reyes, holdovers from that 2005 NBC team.

Joining the team are Larry Rodriguez, Jeff Tajonera and ex-pros Nino Marquez, Marlon Legaspi, Nelson Asaytono, EJ Feihl and Bruce Dacia.

"We have formed a balanced team. We are looking for two American imports to reinforce the team," said NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla.

Zamar is still in Indonesia where his team, Aspac Putra, is contending for the Indonesian Basketball League title. He will be in Manila on Sept. 15.

NBC secretary general Tito Palma will head the delegation while Spring coach Efren "Yong" Garcia will act as assistant coach.

SPORTSWATCH

Pinoys capture 2 Muaythai gold medals

TEAM PHILIPPINES CLINCHED TWO GOLD MEDALS, ONE SILVER AND one bronze in the recent Asian Muaythai Championships in Bangalore, India. Romnick Pabalate, a 19-year-old STI scholar, ruled the 48kg division while Air Force's Anna Joy, a 2005 SEA Games arnis gold medalist, topped the 51kg female class. Playing coach Rodrigo Aslong settled for the silver in the 75kg division while Eugene Toquero forfeited his semifinal match due to leg injury.

Touring Car Championship returns

THE COUNTRY'S ACE DRIVERS GEAR UP AS THE 2007 PHILIPPINE TOURing Car Championship Series resumes with its fourth leg today at the Subic International Raceway. With three legs to go, top contenders led by reigning titlist Jody Coseteng of San Mig Coffee and Alvin Santos of Kotse Network-Mark Young Racing Team, are expected to go all out to fortify their title bids.

Tuason Racing R2R carry RP colors

THE TUASON RACING-READY2RACE TEAM HOPES TO DELIVER ANOTHER big haul for the Philippines today in the third leg of the 2007 Asian Karting Open Championship in Indonesia. Top karters Joey Orduna and Juha Turalba left Thursday for Indonesia with high hopes of equaling their Philippine leg feats last month. Orduna will be R2R's biggest bet in the Mini-ROK division.

Waterfront hosts Nat'l Jetski Series

THE SECOND LEG OF THE 2007 PETRON-JSAP NATIONAL JETSKI SERIES will be held Sept. 1 at the Waterfront Beach of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority. Defending champion Paul del Rosario and Sammy Parilla will be gunning for their second straight triumph. Del Rosario hopes for a repeat of his feat in the premiere Expert Runabout 1200 class against BJ Ang.

Stag Festival draws 128 entries

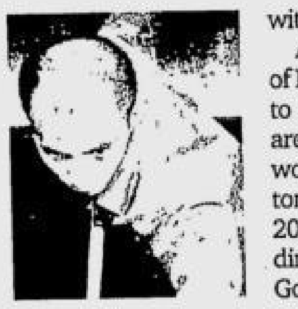
WITH 128 CONFIRMED ENTRIES, ROLIGON MEGA COCKPIT'S STAG FESTIval 5-stag derby slated on Sept. 6, 8 and 10 looms as another duel of rising gamecock breeders. Host Rolly Ligon said breeders may present their stags for screening today and every Sunday at Roligon office (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.).

SJC cockfest: 76 fights today

THE MANAGEMENT OF SAN JUAN COLISEUM PRESENTS THE FIRST SUNday Special 4-cock derby at 4 p.m. today. "No hackfight is scheduled at SJC on Sundays, so the management decided to hold Sunday derbies," said pit manager Renato Shio. Host Ninang Flower staked P400,000 as top prize.

CAGE TOSS: Fourth district councilor and Majority floor leader Ariel Inton does the ceremonial toss of the Quezon City Inter-Restaurant Basketball League at the Bernardo Park, Quezon City.

Orcollo returns for SMC Scotch Doubles 10-ball


ORCOLLO

FILIPINO POOL ACE DENNIS Orcollo arrived last Thursday from a successful US campaign to compete in the San Miguel Corp. (SMC) Scotch Doubles 10-ball event on Sept. 19-21 at the Elbowroom/Metro Walk in Pasig City.

The 28-year-old Orcollo won the 2007 BCA Enjoypool.com 9-ball title last May at the Riviera Hotel and Casino Las Vegas, Nevada, to advance to the main draw of the 2007 World Pool Championships set Nov. 3-11 at the Araneta Coliseum.

Orcollo, the 2006 World Pool league champion, is currently No.2 in the player money list with total winnings of $59,700.

Aside from Orcollo, top player of Bugsy Promotion, also expected to join the SMC Scotch Doubles are his stablemate and double world champ Ronato Alcano, Antonio Gabica, Jeffrey de Luna, 2007 Oslo, Norway Battle of Scandinavia 9-ball champ Roberto Gomez, 2006 SMB Asian 9-ball tour titlist Gandy Valle, 2007 Korean Pro tour 9-ball champ Joven Bustamante and Carlo Biado.

Also invited were players of Puyat Sports led by Hall of Famer Efren "Bata" Reyes and Negros Billiards Stable headed by Lee Vann Corteza. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Bancod leads RP campaign

Standings after 8 rounds

6.5 points—Weiqi Zhou (China), Li Chao (China); 6.0 points—GM Zhang Zhong (China), WGM Ruofan Li (China), Wan Yunguo (China), GM Dao Thien Hai (Viet), GM Ziaur Rahman (Bangladesh), IM Grinath P.D.S. (India); 5.5 points—IM Ronald Bancod (RP), IM Wang Rui (China), GM Nguyen Anh Dung (Viet), IM Sadikin Irwanto (Indonesia), Wang Li (China), FM Yee-Weng Lim (Mal)

FILIPINO INTERNATIONAL MASTER Ronald Bancod trounced Fide Master Anas Nazreen Bakri of India in the eighth round yesterday to lead the Philippine campaign in the 2007 Dato Artur Tan Malaysian Open at the Cititel Midvalley Hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Bancod raised his total to 5.5 points and shared 9th to 14th places with IM Wang Rui and Wang Li of China, GM Nguyen Anh Dung of Vietnam, IM Sadikin Irwanto of Indonesia and FM Yee-Weng Lim of Malaysia.

It was a bad day for other Filipinos, however as IMs Richard Bitoon, Barlo Nadera and Oliver Dimakiling and National Masters Emmanuel Senador and Rolando Nolte suffered reversals. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Claret, Hope up in boys' volley

CLARET BANKED ON MACKY MACARAEG, Ralph Santisteban and Deric Calicdan in the closing minutes to beat St. Joseph, 25-18, 25-23, in the Petron Treats Boys Volleyball league yesterday at the Colegio de San Lorenzo in Quezon City. Mentored by Tonton Purificacion, Claret trailed mostly during the 2nd set until the trio, who combined for 34 points and 10 kills, got their act together to tie the match at 18 and 23. Top scorers for St. Joseph were John Santos, John Tabaño and Julius Manzanero who contributed 16 points and 6 kills. Two unforced errors by the St. Joseph team spelled the difference and the match ended at 25-23. Claret lead Bracket D with a 2-0 slate while St. Joseph dropped to 1-1 in the event backed by Shakey's, Toby's Sports, Mikasa and Asics. Earlier matches saw Hope rout PIQC, 25-11, 25-15, and Cainta-based Lorenzo Ruiz drubbed debuting St. Francis of Assisi-Taguig, 25-14, 25-7. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Juvenile series: Esguerra bets top favorites

RACING TIPS

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—Batang Eleven (6), Memory Of Fire (8), Top Priority (2), Southern Zone (3), Showgirl (4)
Race 2—(Qrt/Tri)—Telmenoiles (6), Superamerica (2), Ocean Deep (3), War Alert (1)
Race 3—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Kryptonite (5), Dow Jones (1), Reporter (6), Run Like D'Wind (7), Lord Elegene (7)
Race 4—(Qrt/Tri)—Mr Victory (5), Ididitmyway (1), Last Hazm (6), Sambat (7)
Race 5—(Qrt/Tri)—Quasimodo (3), Shifty (1), Daddy's Girl (4), Expidter (6)
Race 6—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Panibugho (5), Carlito's Way (1), Gigi's Gold/Letshaveaparty (4), Miracle Music (6), Sa Wakas (8)
Race 7—(Tri)—Indelible Ink/Capreltosa (1), Anonymous (5), Love Story (3)
Race 8—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Campaign Dancer (7), Brigade Boss/Easy Lover (5), Sir Barbaro (1), Yes Sir I'm Yours (2)
Race 9—(Tri)—Tabako/He's The Man (2), Speed Almighty (3), Pandemonium (5)
Race 10—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Kaligatan (6), Top Of D'Line (8), Pirouetta (11), Magic Dancer (12), Hepburn (2)
Race 11—(Qrt/Tri)—Now Showing (5), Go Go Elgene (8), One Vision (1), Queen Banana (2)
Race 12—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Shades Of Red (5), Deep Rising/Devil Rising (10), White Princess (11), Brown Bomber/Gung Ho (4), I Love This Game (8)
Race 13—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Gold Collar (4), Seeing Red (8), Can And Will (3), Wild Orphan (7), Naughty (10), Mischievous (1)

By Musong R. Castillo

THE OPENING LEGS OF THE 2007 PHILracom Juvenile Series will be flagged off today with the Esguerra stables and crack jockey Patty Dilema shooting for a victory double at the Santa Ana Park in Makati.

Dilema rides Indelible Ink in the Fillies division before piloting Tabako in the Colts event as owner Hermie Esguerra seeks to stamp his stables' class yet again in the premiere stakes races that features tomorrow's track stars.

Both entries could be sent off as outstanding picks owing to recent impressive runs with Indelible Ink, the daughter of Best of Luck out of Seaquin, seeking to win her fourth straight race against five other chargers in her division.

"My team has been preparing them (entries) well, and this is a good test for all of my entries," Esguerra told the INQUIRER.

Yeng would rather coach

IN HUDDLE

Beth Celis

"I'D RATHER BE COACH THAN COMmissioner."

Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao was quick to answer when I asked if he would have been interested had the post of PBA commissioner—recently left vacant by Noli Eala—been offered to him.

I asked Yeng this question because I believe he is one of only three people who are really qualified for the job.

Yeng has established a track record. In my book, he is one of the most successful commissioners the PBL ever had—dynamic, full of ideas which he was able to implement despite the league's very meager resources.

Why, it was only during Yeng's reign that ladies were given the chance to play on a commercial level.

* * *

Yeng could be interested. But given a choice, he'd much rather coach—for as long as he can. He loves the job.

For the coming season however, Yeng said it might not be realistic to hold great expectations for Red Bull since the Barakos have lost key players, among them Enrico Villanueva, Lordy Tugade and Larry Fonacier.

"*Malabo siguro kaming makapasok sa* championship *ngayon*," he said.

* * *

For UE coach Dindo Pumaren, having no superstars in the Warriors bench is proving to be a blessing.

In fact, Dindo attributes the team's exceptional performance to this fact. The Warriors have swept all their games so far in the UAAP.

"We're playing as a team. Everybody contributes, *pantay-pantay lahat, walang malaki ang ulo, lahat madaling kausapin,*" said Dindo.

I wonder if the team was deliberately formed without superstars? Hope it works for Welcoat too in the PBA.

* * *

From what I heard, national coach Chot Reyes is being offered an office job at San Miguel Corp, although he would still be involved with basketball.

According to reports, Chot might work as assistant to Robert Non, the sports department head.

* * *

PBA OIC Sonny Barrios sent this rejoinder re his lengthy Draft Day speech:

"Just watched the DVD of my Draft speech. You're correct. It was a long, long one—more than nine minutes versus the three minutes ABC-5 gave me. *Halata bang sinulit* since it was my first and last Draft Day speech. Best Regards."

* * *

Red Bull's Mick Pennissi has a sequel to the tale of the deadly wisdom tooth.

"You won't believe this but the strangest thing happened to me after Ratchaburi," Mick said when I bumped into him on Draft day.

"The very same syndrome occurred to my wisdom tooth on the opposite side. But this time, I did not allow it to take the better of me. At the first sign of pain and swelling, I went to the dentist and had the molar pulled out."

NFL slaps indefinite ban as Vick pleads guilty

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA—ATLANTA Falcons quarterback Michael Vick Friday admitted he conspired to run a dogfighting ring and helped kill dogs, and was swiftly banned indefinitely by the National Football League.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell wrote to Vick on Friday to inform him that he will remain suspended without pay until further notice.

"Your admitted conduct was not only illegal, but also cruel and reprehensible," Goodell wrote. "Your team, the NFL, and NFL fans have all been hurt by your actions."

Goodell's move came hours after Vick submitted a plea agreement in which the 27-year-old player admitted that he shared responsibility for the deaths of six to eight dogs who had not performed up to expectations in fights.

The grisly description of the dogs' deaths by drowning and hanging in the indictment of Vick and his co-defendants sparked outrage across the country.

According to the plea agreement documents filed in US District Court, where Vick is to formally enter his plea on Monday, Vick bankrolled the operation but didn't wager on the fights.

Vick pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to operate a dogfighting enterprise across state lines, which carries a potential sentence of up to five years in prison, a fine of up to $250,000 and up to three years probation.

The documents said prosecutors will recommend a sentence in the range of a year to 18 months, although the judge who decides the sentence is not bound to follow their recommendation.

"Most of the Bad Newz Kennels operation and gambling monies were provided by Vick," a summary of facts in the case said, as was stated in earlier guilty plea agreements by Vick's three co-defendants—Tony Taylor, Purnell Peace and Quanis Phillips.

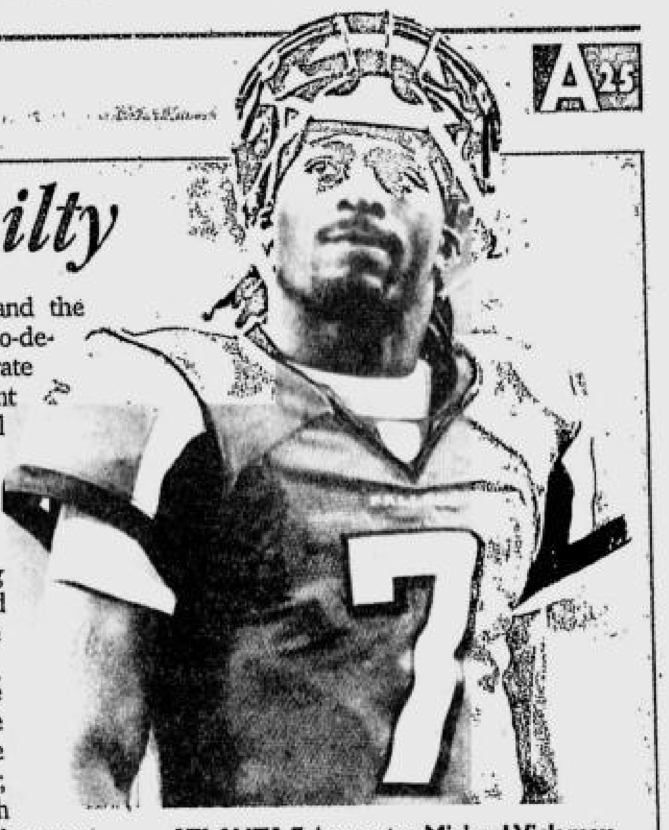
"Vick did not gamble by placing side bets on any of the fights. Vick did not receive any of the proceeds of the purses that were won by Bad Newz Kennels," the summary said.

Despite Vick's attempt to distance himself from the gambling aspect of the enterprise, Goodell said he had clearly violated the league's strict prohibition on involvement in illegal wagering.

"Your plea agreement and the plea agreements of your co-defendants also demonstrate your significant involvement in illegal gambling," Goodell said.

The commissioner will now wait for the legal process to run its course before deciding how long Vick's suspension should run. A life ban is possible under the NFL's rules.

Vick, whose explosive talents made him one of the most popular players in the league, signed a 10-year, $130-million contract with the Falcons in 2005, the richest contract in NFL history to that date. *AFP*



ATLANTA Falcons star Michael Vick may no longer don his No. 7 jersey. REUTERS

Lions get 20-day extension on TRO

By Marc Anthony Reyes

A LONGER SEQUEL WAS ADDED TO THE NCAA off-court drama.

San Beda, determined to protect its bid for a second straight collegiate cage title, has obtained a 20-day extension of the temporary restraining order (TRO) that had earlier prevented the league from imposing sanction on Red Lion star Yousif Aljamal.

"Just to let you know, we were able to get a 20-day extension," San Beda rector and president Fr. Mateo De Jesus, who also represents the school in the powerful NCAA Policy Board, told the INQUIRER yesterday.

The extension of the original 72-hour TRO awarded by the Manila Regional Trial Court after a lengthy hearing last Friday meant that the NCAA won't be able to touch Aljamal until Sept. 14 or about the same time as the holding of the best-of-three championships series.

NCAA officials refused to make any comment until they are able to get a copy of the court ruling, which is expected to reach them only during office hours on Tuesday.

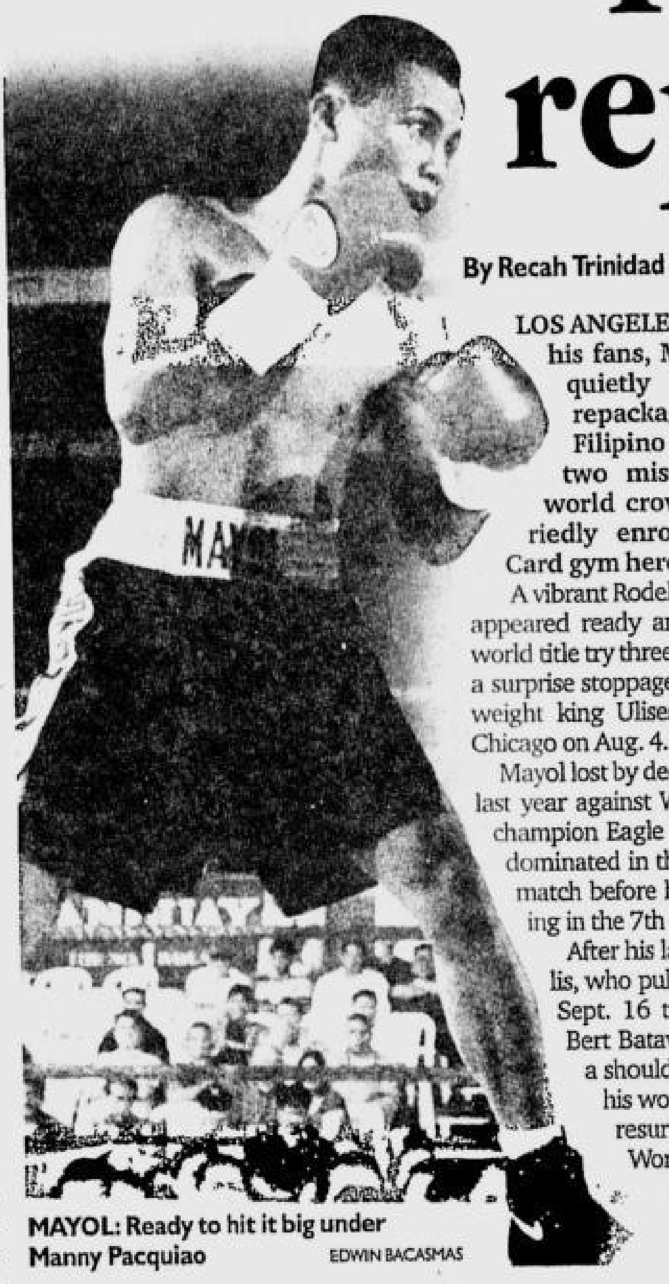
The league's management committee (Mancom) had earlier suspended Aljamal for joining the PBA draft last week without getting permission from the NCAA, but the San Beda ace managed to play against Jose Rizal last Wednesday when the first TRO was issued just hours before the game.

The Mmancom initially sought a suspension for the rest of the season but the NCAA policy board junked the recommendation and opted to ban Aljamal only for the last three games of San Beda in the eliminations.

San Beda is already in the Final Four even if Aljamal sits out the rest of the Lions' regular schedule.

Meanwhile, sources said NCAA president Vicente K. Fabella of Jose Rizal and San Beda's top officials will sit down in a meeting today in a bid to put an end to the Aljamal issue.

Pacman plays samaritan, repackages Mayol



MAYOL: Ready to hit it big under Manny Pacquiao EDWIN BACASMAS

By Recah Trinidad

LOS ANGELES—UNKNOWN TO his fans, Manny Pacquiao is quietly involved in the repackaging of a talented Filipino fighter who, after two miserable tries at a world crown, has been hurriedly enrolled at the Wild Card gym here.

A vibrant Rodel Mayol, 25, yesterday appeared ready and raring for a third world title try three weeks after suffering a surprise stoppage against IBF light flyweight king Ulises Solis of Mexico in Chicago on Aug. 4.

Mayol lost by decision in Tokyo May of last year against WBC minimumweight champion Eagle Kyowa whom he had dominated in the first half of the title match before he rapidly faded starting in the 7th round.

After his last setback against Solis, who pulled out of a scheduled Sept. 16 title fight against RP's Bert Batawang allegedly due to a shoulder injury, Mayol licked his wounds for a week before resurfacing at the Boxing World Cup in Sacramento.

He was however barely recognized by his countrymen, including this reporter, as he appeared dark, washed out and malnourished, a far cry from the top title hope who had remained unbeaten until his first title try in Japan.

Mayol has, however, undergone a splendid makeover, looking fresh and sharp—brilliant eyes, ruddy cheeks—when he reported for gym work here Thursday.

In fact, his new handlers claimed Mayol could have easily manhandled Solis in their Chicago title duel if he were in his current condition.

As proof, Mayol cut Batawang on the eyebrow when he connected with a whamming left cross to the heavily covered head of his sparring partner.

"*Sayang wala talaga ako sa kundisyon duon sa dalawang subok ko sa korona* (It's a pity I was not at peak form in my two world title tries)," Mayol confided to the INQUIRER.

Mayol refused to comment and pass the blame, but it was obvious he had been poorly trained and poorly motivated.

He would not, however, hide how he feels reborn, brand new, now that Pacquiao, deep in training in Cebu City, has taken him under his wings.

With Pacquiao away from Wild Card, it's easy to suspect he is managing Mayol only by remote control.

But the resurgent Mayol was quick to assure that it's a warm, hands-on concern and care he has been receiving from his famous patron.

Mayol stays with the remaining Team Pacquiao staff at their gated Palazzio residence here, and is being trained by Nonoy Neri, a trusted assistant of Freddie Roach.

He said Pacquiao has also told him he would be among the Filipino boxers to be featured in the Pacman's rematch against Marco Antonio Barrera in Las Vegas on Oct. 6.

There's no rush now, but Mayol said he feels certain of making it in his third try at a world crown.

He claimed this is the first time in his career that he's getting professional care and training.

In his first bid at a world crown, he bared he came many hours short in proper road work and gym duties.

In Chicago the last time, he said he was underfed and improperly trained.

Mayol could only shake his head as he related how Michael Koncz, his business manager, suddenly disappeared after leaving him only $8,000 of his original $35,000 purse.

There, indeed, had been more than enough villains to ruin his career, but Mayol is certain he will not fail under Pacquiao's heroic handling.

STI, UM clinch Final 4 berths

STI MARCHED STRAIGHT TO THE Final Four and towed with it University of Manila as well.

The Olympians rolled to the next round with a masterful repeat over defending champion AMA, 86-75, yesterday in the National Athletics Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (Naascu) basketball tournament at the New Era gym.

Aside from solidifying their position on top, the Olympians (11-1) pushed the Titans (8-4) down the ladder to clear the way for the Hawks to also secure a Final Four berth.

UM improved its record to 10-2 after downing St. Clare, 77-72, in the first game.

"We are happy with the way we are playing and I can say that we are on track with our goal of making the finals for the second straight year," said STI coach Vic Ycasiano.

Dexter Micutuan, the 6-foot-2 veteran guard, topscored for STI with 18 points, while Ramon Mabayo and Howard Flor accounted for 15 and 13 points, respectively.

The Titans got 32 points from Chito Jaime, but failed to avert their fourth loss in 12 games.

Marc Anthony Reyes

Machado keys Brazil victory

LAS VEGAS—MARCELO MACHADO HIT five 3-pointers and finished with 20 points to lead Brazil to a 101-75 victory over winless Venezuela on Friday in the opening round of the Fiba Americas tournament.

In other games, Argentina beat Puerto Rico, 87-75, Panama downed Mexico, 95-90, and Canada won, 93-83, against the US Virgin Islands.

Machado hit four of his triples in the first half when Brazil (2-0) took a 43-36 lead. Hector Romero had 21 points for Venezuela, which stayed close in the first half despite shooting 39 percent.

Venezuela (0-3) will play the US Virgin Islands (0-2) Sunday. The US Virgin Islands play Brazil Saturday. If it comes down to a matchup of winless teams on Sunday, the loser will be the only one of five Group B teams not to advance to the second round. *AP*

Purefoods sticking to old lineup, says coach

By Musong R. Castillo

WHY FIX IT, IF IT AIN'T BROKE?

Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio has adopted that adage, choosing to keep his team intact by snubbing the Draft and staying away from the free agent market seven weeks before the 33rd PBA season opens.

"I have a solid nine-man rotation," Gregorio told the INQUIRER over the phone yesterday. "There are no developments because we don't think there is a need to [improve the team]."

Only the contracts of veterans Noy Castillo and Richard Yee are still up in the air, with Gregorio still trying to evaluate if both can keep up with the direction the Giants are headed.

James Yap and Kerby Raymundo remain the focal points of the Giants' offense, with the defense anchored on the comebacking Marc Pingris and Roger Yap.

All four will be in the starting lineup for Gregorio when the league's new season starts on Oct. 14 at the Araneta Coliseum in Cubao.

Purefoods ignored the Draft, passing up on its 15th choice overall. The Giants had no pick in the first round as a result of a prior trade with Air21 that involved Pingris two seasons ago.

The Giants won the Philippine Cup in 2005 and placed fifth last year. Asked whether he would trade either Raymundo or James Yap, Gregorio replied: "Management might give me away first before even thinking of shipping those two players away."

Choi claims Barclays golf lead

CHOI: Best season yet AP

HARRISON, NEW YORK—KJ CHOI holed out from 94 yards for eagle on the seventh hole and marched to a 5-under 66 for a two-shot lead over resurgent Rich Beem going into the weekend at The Barclays on Friday.

And on a course where Vijay Singh has won three times, the defending champion cleaned out his locker on Friday after missing the cut for the first time at Westchester in five years. He wasted a brilliant start to shoot 71 and miss by four shots.

"In one way, I'm disappointed," said Singh, who has missed consecutive cuts for the first time since 2005. "But in another, I'd rather be out there working on my game than just trying to play here and playing poorly."

Geoff Ogilvy, who won the US Open down the road at Winged Foot last summer, had a 66 in the swirling breezes of late afternoon and joined Steve Stricker (68) and Rory Sabbatini (71) at 8-under 134.

No one else was within six shots of Choi at 12-under 130.

"It's going to get firmer, and as it gets firmer, it will get tougher," Ogilvy said.

But while The Barclays still has 36 holes remaining, the FedEx Cup season ended for 13 players who were below No. 120 and either missed the cut or withdrew. That makes it impossible for them to be among the 120-man field in round two at the Deutsche Bank Championship. Among them was Billy Andrade, who grew up near the TPC at Boston.

For Choi, it was another reminder that this has been his best year in golf.

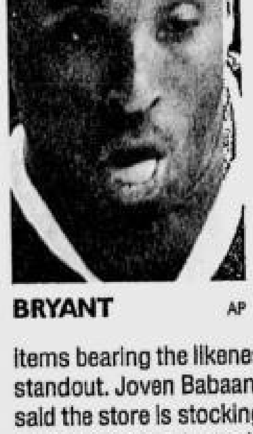
He already has two US PGA Tour victories against strong fields this year. He is No. 5 in the US playoff standings. He is on the verge of cracking the top 10 in the world ranking. And his confidence is growing with a controlled fade off the tee that has spurred his success.

In 10 previous rounds at this tournament, Choi had never shot better than 67 and had broken par only three times. He was at 12-under 130 going into the weekend of the first event in the US PGA Tour playoffs.

"My scores are better than what I expected," Choi said. "I've always played not so well here in the past years." *AP*

Kobe Bryant returns Sept. 5

KOBE BRYANT, THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS superstar who owns the second highest scoring output in a single game with 81, will arrive in Manila Sept. 5 to do promotional work for Nike. As part of his promo work, Bryant will again hold a clinic for selected youngsters during his visit here, which is part of a five-day Asian Tour. "I'm looking forward to returning to Asia to see the progress the kids have made since my last visit last summer and to train those I didn't meet," said Bryant. The trip is part of a five-day Asian Tour and this early, entrepreneurs are stocking up on legitimate Bryant merchandise to combat the expected proliferation of fake items bearing the likeness and image of the NBA standout. Joven Babaan of Proline Sports Center said the store is stocking up on original Bryant replica jerseys, shorts, balls and backboards.



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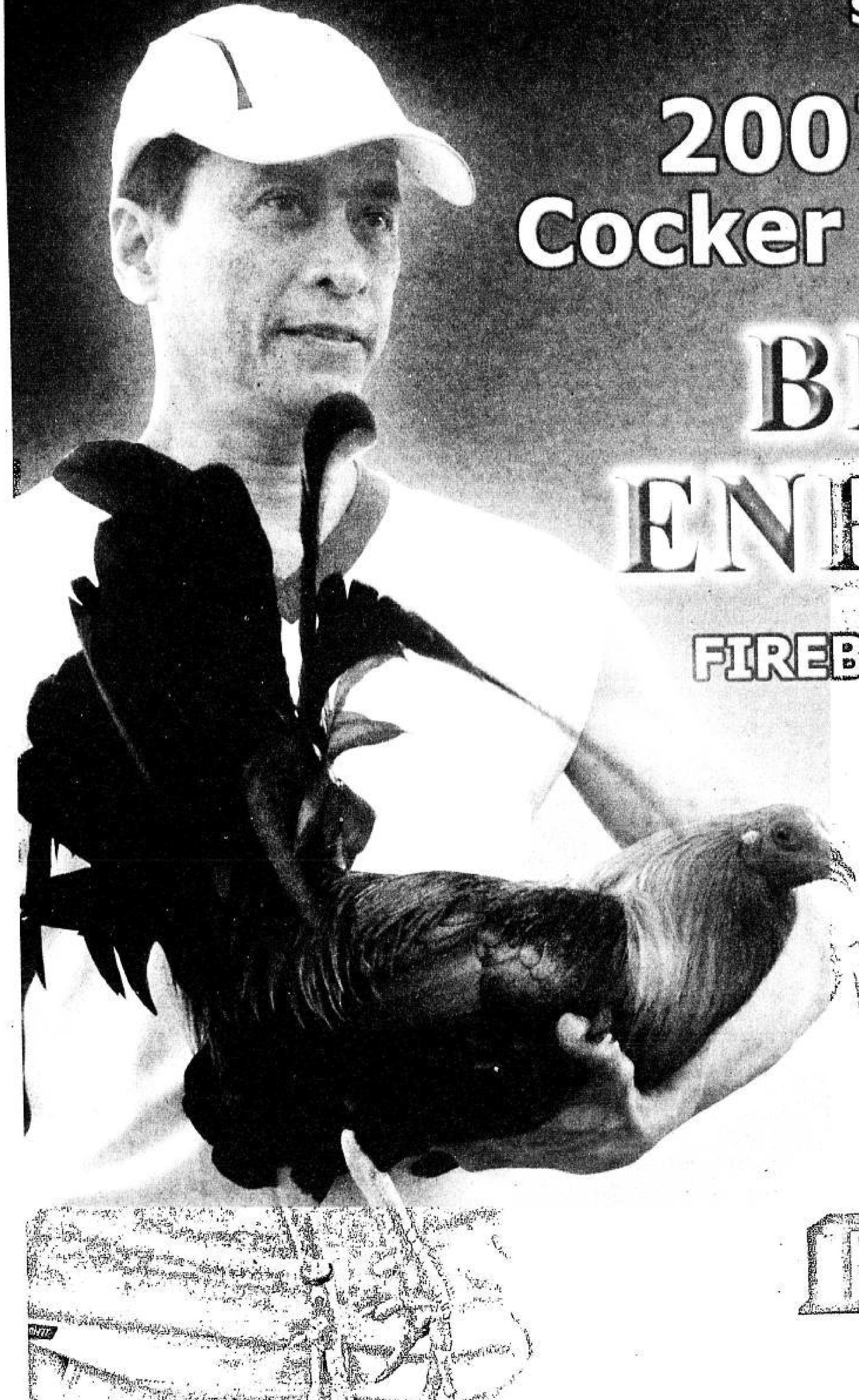

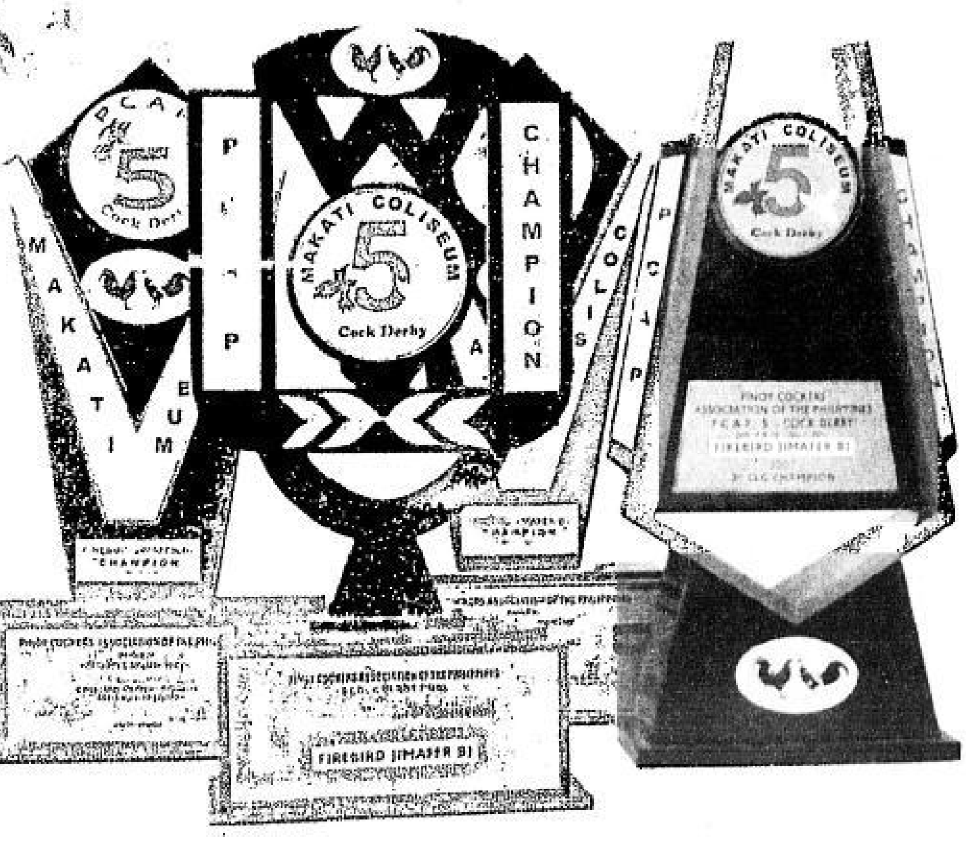

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IN THIS ISSUE

- **Former fish vendor** now top exporter/B4
- **Books remain** a booming business/B3

Taking the CEO role even at home

JOEY BERMUDEZ

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

JOEY A. BERMUDEZ HAS BEEN RUNNING his household pretty much the same way he runs his bank.

He is the president of Chinatrust (Phils.) Commercial Bank Corp., a Taiwanese bank that has been making its niche in the personal loans arena the past few years.

His wife, Ester, a full time mother, is the home's chief operating officer. But Joey often makes the "executive" decisions, along with establishing the control and monitoring systems and "human resource development programs" of the children.

Parenting role

"The role I assume in parenting is I am the CEO at home. If there is an HR (human resource) problem with one of the kids, I dialog with them," he says.

He says sometimes "resources allocation issues I cannot just leave with my wife. Example of this is who gets to use the car?"

With two active teenagers in the house and both with a driver's license, a system had to be devised on who gets to use the vehicle. He says the nature of the "gimmick" is taken into account before a decision is made.

> It's good to note that a banker is putting so much value on things which cannot be bought by money

Advice on career decisions is his turf. "I want to hone their talents—that's the CEO's job."

Bermudez says he prefers coaching than training his eldest son, who is finishing a degree in Special Education. "I ask him what his priorities are," he says, in the hope that this will guide his son on what to do after graduation.

The choice for now is to go abroad.

Values formation

But the most important role he and his wife like to play is forming the children's values.

When the family was going to buy a new car, the two teenagers were egging him to get a new BMW model by taking out a loan and adding to the car privilege the bank provides him. The boys cited that their

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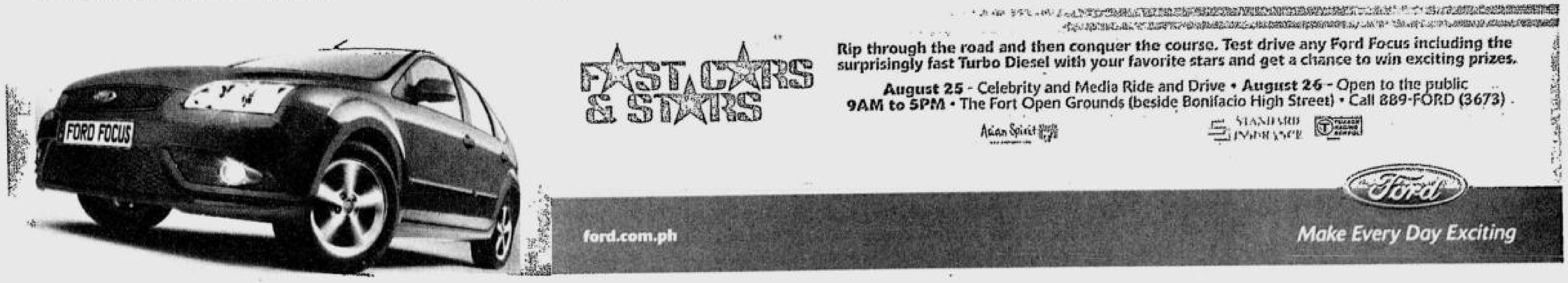
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The *Smarter* BlackBerry

You *really* wanna know me…

By: Walter Ray Choi

"Hey, is that the new BlackBerry?" Danny, my graphic designer buddy, doesn't really need an answer to his question as he already has the phone in hand, examining each new sleek detail of my BlackBerry 8800. His gushes come in waves, on the smaller, slimmer profile, on the large attractive screen display and the richer apps as he scrolls through. He's a picture of almost childish delight-- quite the turnaround really, considering he once described older BlackBerries as possessing "all the charm of 70's-era electric shavers."

Clearly the smarter BlackBerry turns heads, and is bound to turn old views on their heads.

Beneath the glossy new shell, the smarter BlackBerry is proving to be a tighter package and therefore more compelling for local business people. "Just think how much more business can achieve when they add push-email to their mobile messaging solutions," one telco executive says. Push-email (on your LAN or private email account) is after all, the killer-app of the BlackBerry, and always has been. It's easy to extrapolate the possible benefits to a nation that already does a substantial amount of business through SMS, limited as it inherently is.

"E-mails perfectly complement SMS, being a method of sending more complete messages, while SMS serve as quick heads-up. Plus e-mails are legally binding." He cites the numerous occasions workers refer to email trails when points or facts are in dispute or just needed for the record.

When email becomes part of any business' mobile messaging solution, they are usually following the lead of "best-in-class organizations" as defined by the The Enterprise Mobile Messaging Benchmark Report submitted by the Aberdeen Group in late 2006. They are the leaders in their field due mainly to an exponentially increased effectiveness of mobile workers now being able to receive and respond to emails while on the go.

Even as we look to increase our options in enterprise mobile messaging to include email in a bigger way, the Aberdeen study notes that 67% of such best-in-class organizations overseas have infrastructures in place that can support unifying platforms for all mobile messaging platforms. So in that sense, mobile email may be just the beginning.

Heads or tails. The smarter BlackBerry easily steps over from serious business and into casual everyday life.

The smarter BlackBerry even supports mobile Instant Messaging on Yahoo Messenger, Google Talk, or its own BlackBerry Instant Messenger. So add that flexible option to the package and you start to appreciate how versatile the smarter BlackBerry has become. And it's all still growing since the same study states that 48% of surveyed organizations have had mobile email in place for just more than a year. "This statistic suggests that enterprise mobile messaging is now coming out of the 'early adopter' stage and is starting to see a mass enterprise adoption," the study states. Can you really afford to be left out of this best-in-class club?

The smarter BlackBerry certainly doffs the somber suit and puts on all the cute consumer bells and whistles such as smarter styling and features but its key value is still all business, and with Smart's superior network, wider business reach at that. We're just glad it's become such a pleasure as well.

All Thumbs. The distinctive "QWERTY" keypad of the BlackBerry makes using high-powered office apps, navigating and emailing a breeze.

Fine-tune your speaking skills

"There's No Such thing as Public Speaking"
By Jeanette and Roy Henderson
Prentice Hall Press, 2007

By Dante M. Velasco
Contributor

MASS COMMUNICATION IS NOW increasingly being dismissed as an anachronism in the 21st century.

Today, thanks to technology, communication has become a one-on-one affair. Communication is now by text, e-mail, chat and many other ways when messages come to you as up close and personal as having coffee with someone in Figaro.

Even communication by television has become one-on-one, not one to the faceless mass.

One of the last vestiges of mass communication could have been speaking in public—true to the tradition of ancient speakers like Demosthenes of Macedonia and Cicero of Rome.

They addressed large crowds, relying largely on the volume of their voice and the fidelity of "transmission by word of mouth" by the audience. A blessing of modernity, the microphone was nonexistent then.

EXECUTIVE READ

Noted modern public speakers in the past were still icons of "public speaking" as we know it—one man speaking to a great multitude.

John F. Kennedy speaking to a thunderous applause in Berlin was speaking to an emotional public. Martin Luther King spoke in Washington DC to a huge throng of marchers sharing his "dream." Speeches were written and delivered then, conjuring up a solitary voice speaking to a collective.

Things have changed.

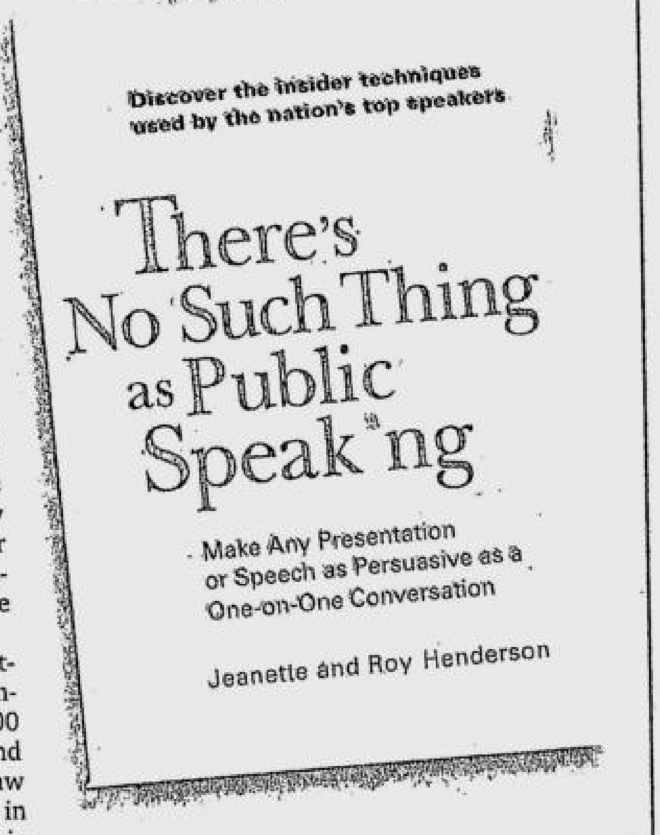
When Ronald Reagan was billed the "Great Communicator" because he used television to speak to people "one-on-one." The high pitch meant for large audiences gave way to a low pitch, warm voice—and listener-watcher felt Mr. Reagan was within reach.

The bombast to whip up a crowd took a backseat for a "talk" with the speaker, noting his voice lowered one decibel—while he looms larger than life on a television screen.

Today, all "media appearance" coaching and mentoring efforts take note of this radical change in the way people must appear on television—relaxed, warm and mild-mannered.

That's why Chiz Escudero, now senator, connected well with the voters—and with *colegialas*. That's why some politicians fail to impress, because they use television as if they are making speeches on campaign stages.

Now comes a book that tells it like it is: "There is no such thing as public speaking"! Its prescription is simple: Make any presentation or speech as persuasive as a one-on-one conversation.



Discover the insider techniques used by the nation's top speakers

There's No Such Thing as Public Speaking

Make Any Presentation or Speech as Persuasive as a One-on-One Conversation

Jeanette and Roy Henderson

This book, written by speech coaches to Fortune 500 business leaders and to candidates, draw from their training in speech and drama in many schools including the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Advancing the idea that "every communication is just a conversation no matter how many people may be listening," the authors devote chapters to the need for "eye contact," and for the "full frontal stance." These are no mere prescriptions culled from other books.

They advance the concept that anyone speaking is actually asking the reactor (listener) to have an alliance with him to advance an idea or to take action. Interesting observations are made by the authors that can also be valuable in day-to-day encounters, especially when you want to grab someone's attention.

The book is tightly-knit argument for the conversation the speaker begins, sustains and concludes with individual reactors. An account on how "eye contact" is possible in a large crowd is immediately useful using "focal centers."

The book dares prescribe some rules where others take the safety of generalization. You get advice on "too much" or "too little" gesture. A simple rule on the sequence of "thought-gesture-vocalization" instantly leads you to review if you are gesturing right.

But, this book is not all about physical requirements in speaking. It prescribes a way to develop a subject that looks so "formulaic" but looks workable.

They advice that the content of the speech or presentation must always be these: One, make an irrefutable statement to which reactor must say yes; two, introduce a new idea and share alliance with reactor; and propose an action.

Lest, this is all theory, the book reprinted the Gettysburg Address of Abraham Lincoln, and broke it down according to the outline.

One may feel that the book is giving us broad strokes and principles, and yet at the final chapters the authors are dealing with such issues as "the power of the pause," "the use of a thought bite" (reminiscent of a sound bite), the adrenaline factor—and the "mantle of authority."

The last point about authority stresses the need for the speaker to come across as (because he/she is) as a leader or an expert. Otherwise, why waste the time of the audience?

The book should not be your first book on public speaking, because this one provides fine-tuning to what you already know; brings in nuances in speech writing and delivery; and asks you to abandon or revise your present speaking habits.

At any rate, when you read it, it's like having these authors in the privacy of your executive suite—and then they freely give advice on how you can make that "conversation" effective and powerful.

The moment of listening to them is well worth it. *(dantemvelasco@yahoo.com)*

Taking the CEO role...

From page B1

friends have fancy cars.

But Bermudez pointed out the wisdom in being wise on spending. "I told them even if we had the money, why would we spend it on a new car. It can be spent on a possible MBA of one of them in the United States. I told them a car is simply a means of transport, so why do we need to borrow (to buy a more expensive one)?"

Bermudez's values on spending and work come from someone who did not have as much comforts as his children now enjoy.

Working scholar

Although on a scholarship, he had to work while in college to provide for his other needs and ensure that even if he lost his scholarship he would be able to continue with his studies.

While taking up Business Administration, he was a student assistant at the University of Sto. Tomas College of Medicine. He earned P4.30 for a half day's work.

Joey wanted to be a lawyer but he was prevailed upon to take up a more practical course, not to mention the limited family resources for education.

Throughout college, he worked at Manufacturers Bank and Trust Co. and then at Anselmo Trinidad and Co. (the largest stock brokerage firm at that time). Upon graduation, he worked as a research analyst at Bancom Dev't. Corp.

His passion for writing helped him land a job at Bancom, then an investment house that hired some of the more brilliant business minds like PLDT chair Manuel V. Pangilinan.

Joey eventually got a banking job and he has remained a banker since then.

Industry niche

He took over the presidency of Chinatrust six years ago and has been able to find a niche for the bank in the overcrowded industry.

Chinatrust was initially established to serve the Taiwanese businesses in the Philippines and do wholesale banking for some major local companies like PLDT, Ayala and San Miguel Corp.

In late 2001, the bank's principals noted that there was no significant growth in the Taiwanese segment and decided to diversify the bank's revenue stream.

"At first they wanted to go into the credit card business because in Taiwan, Chinatrust is the second largest in this segment," Joey explains.

However, upon studying the market of four million credit card holders in a country with a population of over 80 million, the bank thought it was not a very big market, what with several players already in the game.

But Joey says they saw an interesting market—there are 25 million salaried individuals in the Philippines, a much bigger market than the credit card base.

"These individuals have a regular income stream," he adds.

They started their personal loan portfolio by acquiring the portfolio of ABN-Amro. These personal loans are no-collateral borrowings that are repaid in 24 to 36 months. With interest, of course.

From an initial portfolio of P300 million, Chinatrust's personal loan account now totals P4 billion and contributes 25 percent of the bank's revenue stream. The portfolio grows by about 30 percent a year.

Although a lucrative market, he says it is not an easy one to penetrate because an infrastructure is needed to handle, say, 100,000 accounts.

The average rate of bad debts amounts to about four to five percent, Joey says, adding 90 percent of the bad loans are caused by legitimate defaults like loss of jobs, death in the family, sickness.

The average amount loaned is about P60,000; it can go as low as P20,000 and as high as P1 million. Common uses are tuition payments, hospitalization, trips abroad, wedding and home renovations.

Sales force

Chinatrust banks on a good sales force for the continued expansion of this business.

He says the business will continue to grow because of the local culture of '*bale*' (getting an advance to be charged to salary and/or bonuses) and '*paluwagan*' (a fund scheme where workers contribute regularly and then take turns getting the entire pot).

The personal loan portfolio even became the subject of his thesis for his MA in Economics from the University of Asia and the Pacific which was awarded Best Thesis.

Quest for learning

Always in a quest for learning, Joey also has a pending MBA degree from De La Salle University. He only lacks the thesis.

Back to his home life, his unfulfilled dream of being a lawyer is given an arena when he regularly debates with his sons. He says sometimes they stay for three hours on the dinner table debating about topics like "Who is the greatest NBA player of all time?" or "Who is the greatest boxer?"

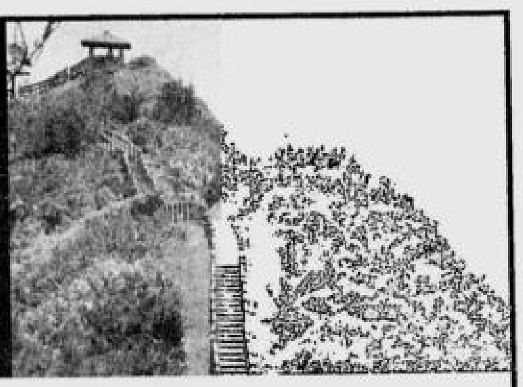
Although he puts in 11 hours of work daily from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Bermudez makes sure he spends a lot of time with his children.

And he extends his training to friends' children, allowing some of them to work in the bank during summers. But they all have to follow office rules—one was told he had to cut his long hair. He refused and did not continue the training.

But like many modern CEOs, Joey does not intend to grow old on the job. He says he would like to retire early and engage in other pursuits—like writing.

Not one to equate price tags with gifts, he says during one Christmas he gave an article as a gift to friends (with a basket of fruits, he adds) and it was an appreciated gesture.

It is good to note that a banker, whose business is to make money from other people's money, puts so much value on that which cannot be bought by money.



Tax Amnesty Law: Knowing there is a Choice and Making the Right One*

A seminar on the Tax Amnesty Law, its Implementing Rules and Regulations and Selected Controversial Tax Rulings
31 August 2007 • 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Ballroom B, Dusit Hotel Nikko, Makati City

With the Tax amnesty bill's quiet passage into law and the Finance Department's issuance of its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) last August 15, 2007, choices abound on how one's tax liabilities and obligations can be managed wisely.

What this means is that without a good grasp of the Tax Amnesty Law (TAL) and its IRR, coming up with a rational decision whether to avail of it or not is difficult especially for those who do not have any pending tax investigation. The temptation to grab the palatable offer of complete tax immunity in exchange for payment of the required amnesty tax needs thorough knowledge of the real and intrinsic value of said TAL availment.

For those who believe it prudent to do some critical thinking before getting bedazzled by the much sought-after reprieve or cleansing effect, we invite you to join us on August 31, 2007 as we tackle the subject law and IRR along with controversial tax rulings issued by the courts and the BIR .

Let this tax seminar equip you with the knowledge to make the right choice.

Speakers:

Nelson M. Aspe is the BIR Deputy Commissioner for Legal and Inspection.

Alexander B. Cabrera is the firm's managing partner for Tax Services with extensive experience in tax planning.

Ma. Lourdes P. Lim is a partner in the firm for Tax Services with equally extensive experience in tax consultancy.and tax assessment cases.

Seminar fee
The seminar fee per participant inclusive of presentation materials and afternoon snacks is: P 3,850 for firm clients and P 4,400 for non-clients.

Above fees are inclusive of VAT. Checks should be made payable to "Isla Lipana & Co."

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ACE Insurance Philippines upbeat over business potential in the Asia-Pacific region

A HUGE AMOUNT OF OPTIMISM in the business potential in the Asia-Pacific region marked the recent celebration of the 60th anniversary of ACE Insurance Philippines.

Damien Sullivan, ACE Asia Pacific's chief operating officer, cited that outlook in his speech at the anniversary rites, thus: "If there's one word to sum up ACE's current sentiment in Asia Pacific, it's excitement. We're extremely excited by the fact that this region has been designated as a key strategic growth region for the ACE Group."

ACE's eagerness to expand further in the region is taking shape as they've recently opened business in Vietnam and Macau.

They have also made significant investments in people, IT, and real estate across the region to help steer ACE towards its goals. They are also on the look out for potential acquisitions in other countries.

Sullivan stressed though that "the Philippines figures prominently in our five year plan to grow exponentially in the region."

ACE is a global underwriting company, specifically active in writing local insurance business in over 50 countries while serving clients in 140 markets.

It is a member of the ACE Group of Companies, a global leader in insurance and reinsurance. Headed by ACE Limited, the holding company listed on the New York Stock Exchange, ACE has assets worth more than $67 billion as of Dec. 31, 2006.

ACE Limited was established in 1985 by a consortium of 34 Fortune 500 companies to provide hard to find excess liability and directors and offers insurance coverage.

ACE Insurance Philippines is part of the ACE Group of Companies that has a strong presence in the Asia Pacific region that covers Australia, Hong Kong, China, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

Business focus

ACE's focus of business in the Philippines is accident and health insurance.

Sullivan said they "are confident in tailoring coverages at affordable prices suited to the vast majority of Filipinos. Our creativity in product customization is coupled by our innovative methods of reaching out to our customers. We use a range of channels to access our customers from face to face and telemarketing to state-of-the-art voice, electronic and mobile technologies."

Sullivan capped his speech by expressing confidence in ACE Insurance Philippines' Jopet Santos. "With the right leader, we are optimistic about our growth plans and are strongly committed to building our position as an insurer of choice in both the corporate and retail markets."

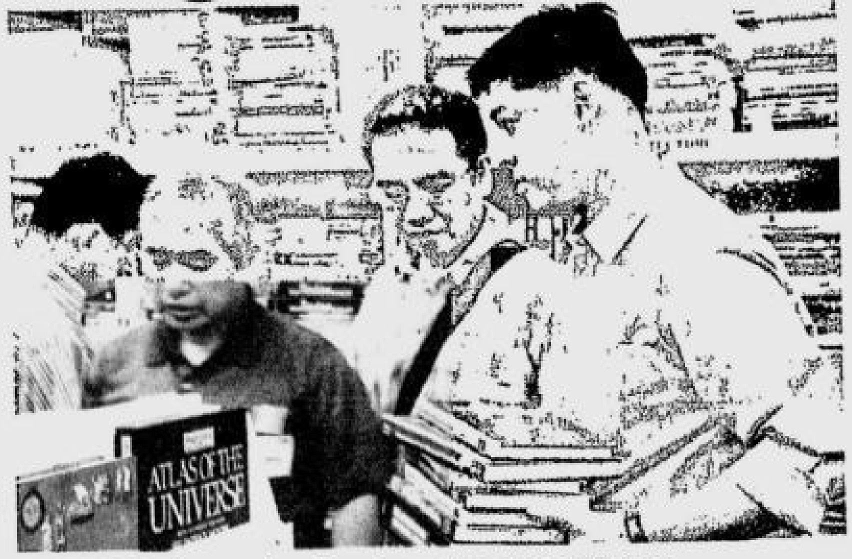
Books remain a booming business

THE PHILIPPINES' RECOVERING economy, as recently attested by international economic and financial institutions, is one key measure for the surge in foreign investments in the country.

This encouraging business climate translates to the publishing and book industries which are likewise seeing a resurgence in recent years.

Irene B. Lloren, president of Primetrade Asia, organizer of the Manila International Book Fair (MIBF), the only internationally recognized book fair in the country, shares how well the trade grew over the last 28 years they have been mounting MIBF.

"When we started the book fair, we just had a few publishers in a small venue. Today, there are over 300 publishers and retailers participating. This attests to the growth and dynamism of the industry," Lloren says.



READING books remains a favorite pastime among Filipinos.

Encouraging reception

The National Book Development Board (NBDB) in its website reports about P15 billion in book sales in 2005. The figures for 2006, however, were not available.

The encouraging reception of the public also helps, proving that Filipinos are reading.

Attended by more than 50,000 people last year, the MIBF showcases the largest and most varied collection of literature, textbooks, educational supplements, general references, religious and inspirational titles, self-help books, management books, Filipiniana, coffee table books, popular novels, children's books, art books, graphic novels, rare and hard-to-find titles, magazines, audio and e-books, multimedia, teaching supplies and services, publishers' technology, and travel materials.

"Before, people regarded reading and buying books as a serious matter. They usually buy books because they were required to. Over the years, we have reinvented the book fair by making reading a pop culture. If before, people regarded reading and buying books as a serious matter, now, the importance of books has evolved and its significance is really immeasurable already, people really take their time to drop by the nearest bookstores and buy the books they want," Lloren says.

Doing well

With the slew of technology available today, in the advent of the Internet, PC games, gadgets, and gizmos, it was earlier predicted that it was the end of the book era.

On the contrary, the book industry is doing well, and is very much alive in the Philippines and all over the world, with local publishing houses consistently churning out new titles, book retailers aggressively offering a wide range of book genres.

"Books are doing well despite trying times. The books coming out now are not only better in content but also in production and design quality," affirms Lirio Sandoval, president of the Book Development Association of the Philippines (BDAP).

Indeed, recent industry figures support this claim. The NBDB website lists over 150 book publishers in the country, a significant jump from 86 in 2003.

Positive outlook

The yearly output of printed books has increased as well. In 2006, 5,713 books were produced in the country, based on the records of the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) culled by the Philippine National Library. This shows a marked increase from 5,429 in 2005.

Sandoval likewise positively looks forward to the future prospects of the MIBF.

"Every year we invite Asean publishers to join and they have always responded positively. This year, they are joining again and we hope that later all the Asian publishers will be represented and who knows, it could be the entire world," Sandoval says.

(The MIBF is the biggest, undisputed, and longest-running book fair in the Philippines, set on Aug. 29-Sept. 2, at the World Trade Center Metro Manila, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue corner Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.)

Popularity versus productivity

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell

POPULARITY AND PRODUCtivity sound like fraternal twins, but in reality they can look as different as Paris Hilton and Warren Buffet.

If productivity is a Honda Civic, then popularity is a Lamborghini Diablo with a bad transmission. In leadership, substance trumps style—every time.

Popular flop

Among the litany of dotcom flameouts, Pets.com is notable for the mass popularity it achieved, and infamous for its failure to generate even a cent of profit.

As a 1998 startup, Pets.com was founded upon the idea of selling pet supplies to online shoppers. The darling of venture capitalists, Pets.com raised a spectacular $82.5 million of capital during its initial public offering in 2000.

Shortly thereafter, Pets.com poured $1.2 million into a Super Bowl commercial. Featuring the company mascot, a sock puppet dog, the advertisement was a smash hit and was voted the best Super Bowl ad by USA Today.

The business' catchy slogan "Because Pets Can't Drive!" announced its arrival to the American market, and consumers flocked to the company's website. Fellow dotcom, Amazon, even bought into the craze—literally—purchasing 50 percent ownership of Pets.com.

Unfortunately for Pets.com (and fans of their sock puppet mascot), they never garnered enough business to offset massive startup costs sunk into warehousing and marketing. The dotcom bubble burst and financing dried up.

Only nine months after going public, Pets.com went out of business. In short, Pets.com lacked a productive business model, which could translate popularity into profits.

Lovable losers

The Chicago Cubs epitomize the concept of the popular, but ineffective franchise.

Nicknamed "The Lovable Losers" by their fans, the Cubs consistently play their way to the bottom of the standings, despite having one of the higher payrolls in Major League Baseball.

Although the Cubs have endeared themselves to Chicagoans, who pack Wrigley Field for every game, the team cannot seem to deliver results. With each passing year of futility, the Cubs prove how disconnected popularity can be from performance.

Leadership application

What can leaders learn from Pets.com and the Chicago Cubs? Well, a couple of simple lessons. First, as the proverb says, "You can't judge a book by its cover."

A prudent leader looks past appearances to discern the heart of a matter. Perhaps it's the potential hire with the glittering resume, who, upon further review, falsified his achievements.

Or maybe it's a potential partner with the captivating sales pitch, who after being researched, turns out to have a track record of unethical behavior. Or possibly it's a sparkling business opportunity that promises growth and brand recognition, but, after being reviewed, would clearly steer the company away from its mission.

Second, leaders build margins, not image.

A leader may be forced to take unpopular stands for the good of the company. Popularity isn't bad, but decisions made solely on the basis of popular opinion can be devastating.

Leaving a plush corporate campus for smaller, more functional office space doesn't earn a leader a pat on the back, but it may protect the company from financial doom.

Layoffs are agonizingly unpopular, but they may the only solution to a downturn in the economy. Leaders are willing to endure the criticism of making tough calls that fly in the face of popular opinion.

(For information on John Maxwell's in-house or public leadership or teamwork workshops, please e-mail us at bingericta@gmail.com or call 813-2049/2732 and ask for Bing Ericta. Text MAXWELL ON to 4632 (Smart) to get daily SMS leadership insights from John Maxwell.)

Former fish vendor ...

From page B4

When the volume of fish caught from Laguna de Bay dropped due to overfishing and pollution, she decided to look for another work.

In Paete, Laguna, a nearby town that is known for sculpture and handicrafts, she landed a job at a small paper mâché enterprise.

She toiled as a worker there for four years, learning the paper mâché trade and knowing the buyers and exporters.

She resigned in 1986, returned to Pangil, and used whatever she had saved to set up her own paper mâché business.

From humble beginnings, the business grew slowly until 1990, when orders suddenly got bigger. That trend went on for about six years and enabled her, in fact, to employ members of around 30 families in her community.

Business was good she was also able to buy a van and a house and lot for the family.

But a big problem came her way when Eleseo fell ill and was diagnosed to have cancer. It was the most difficult time of her life and of the business.

Merlyn said soaring medical expenses eventually took a toll on their finances, forcing her to sell some of their properties including the van.

Worse, a buyer reneged on a P500,000 worth of orders, eventually leading her to bankruptcy. Eleseo died in 2000.

That's when Merlyn shut down the business and fell into depression. "We had nothing. We could not borrow money from people since they knew we had no money and could not pay them back," she recalled.

Until 2002 when she decided to rise up again. In the process of doing so, she met and fell in love with Ronnie Nolial, one of her workers. Ronnie is now her business partner.

A P5,000 loan the couple got in 2005 enabled them to expand the business. They now have 30 employees doing pattern-making, cutting, molding/folding, wrapping, drying, finishing touches and quality control.

They can also service a purchase order worth P400,000 in one month.

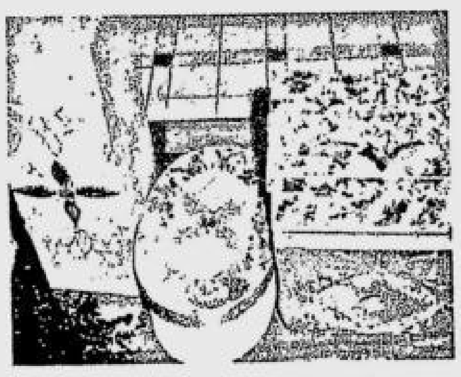
Ronnie said their edge against other paper mâché products is their products' design and quality.

He creates the designs and samples they submit to exporters while Merlyn supervises the production.

"In this business you have to be creative. Usually, when we see beautiful products, we try to modify those and develop our own," he said.

Even though their business is not really getting big profit, Merlyn and Ronnie still push through with it.

According to them, materials and labor costs account for about 60 percent of their total revenue.



HAND-MADE paper mâché products

For a product sold at P82, P50 is the cost of materials and labor and P32 will be their profit.

They also felt that their earnings dipped because of the rising cost of materials.

Ronnie shared that in 1993, a bundle of paper board cost them P160, but it has increased now to P1,080.

But still, they want to pursue the business because it is giving their neighborhood a livelihood.

WORKERS do the cutting, folding and finishing touches of brown paper mâché.

"We don't want them to be jobless. All of us are benefiting in this business," Ronnie said.

In the future, they aim to increase their capital and expand the business.

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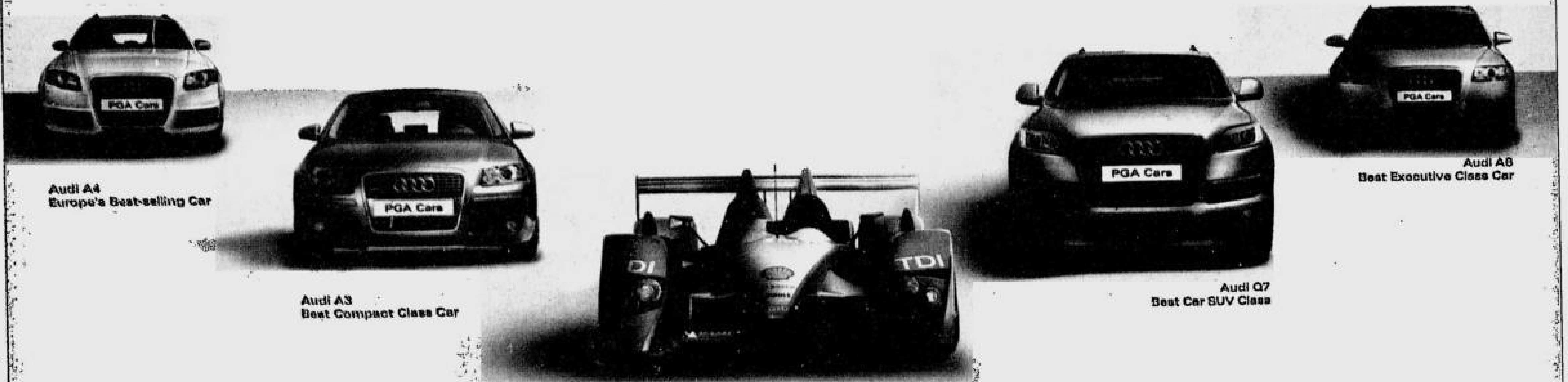

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Former fish vendor now exports paper mâché products

Text and Photos
by Niña Catherine Calleja
Inquirer Southern Luzon

PANGIL, LAGUNA—WHEN Merlyn Francisco, 50, lost her husband to lung cancer seven years ago, she felt her happy life was over.

Merlyn fell into a deep depression and never went out of their house. It seemed, according to her, that her family lost everything.

She shut down their paper mâché business, which has given them livelihood for 21 years, because of loneliness.

But two years later, in 2002, Merlyn snapped out of her stupor and decided to revive the business and their life.

Her family has been producing "basic brown" paper mâché products, which were later on transformed into decorated paper boxes.

Brimming with confidence, and support from a new business and life partner, Merlyn called on the exporters she used to deal with before to let them know she was back in business.

And what a comeback she did. From near scratch when she restarted the business, she now serves purchase orders amounting to millions of pesos from four exporters yearly.

In December last year, she was one of the chosen finalists of the 2006 Citygroup Microentrepreneur Award.

Rags-to-riches story

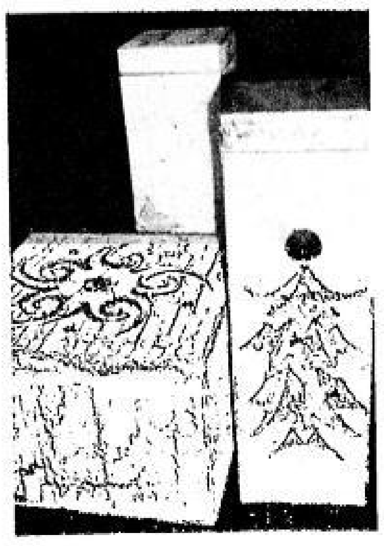
The Francisco family's tale is a common rags-to-riches story.

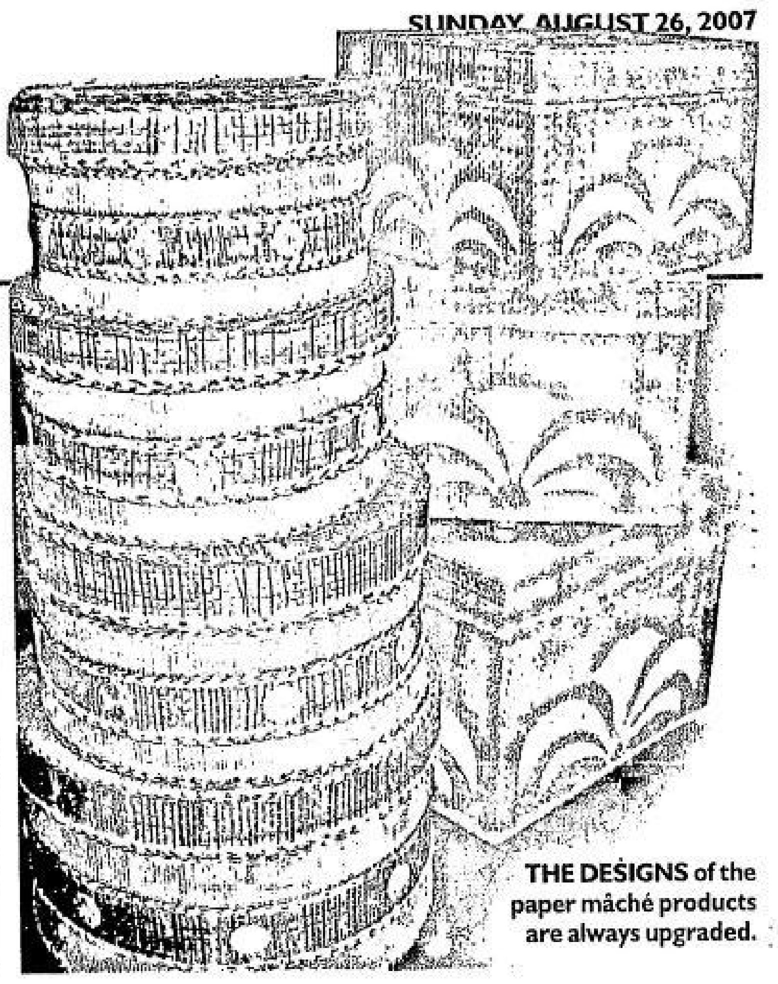
Merlyn was a fish vendor in the market while her husband Eleseo was a fisherman and a part-time tricycle driver.

"It was very difficult. We had to make both ends meet with so little money," she said in Filipino.

With seven children, Merlyn said their life became more difficult as the family grew bigger.

FORMER/ B3





THE DESIGNS of the paper mâché products are always upgraded.

MERLYN Francisco with her new partner, Ronnie Nolial

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2 months	3.50%	3.63%	3.75%	3.88%
3 months	3.63%	3.75%	3.75%	3.88%
6 months	3.75%	3.88%	3.88%	4.00%
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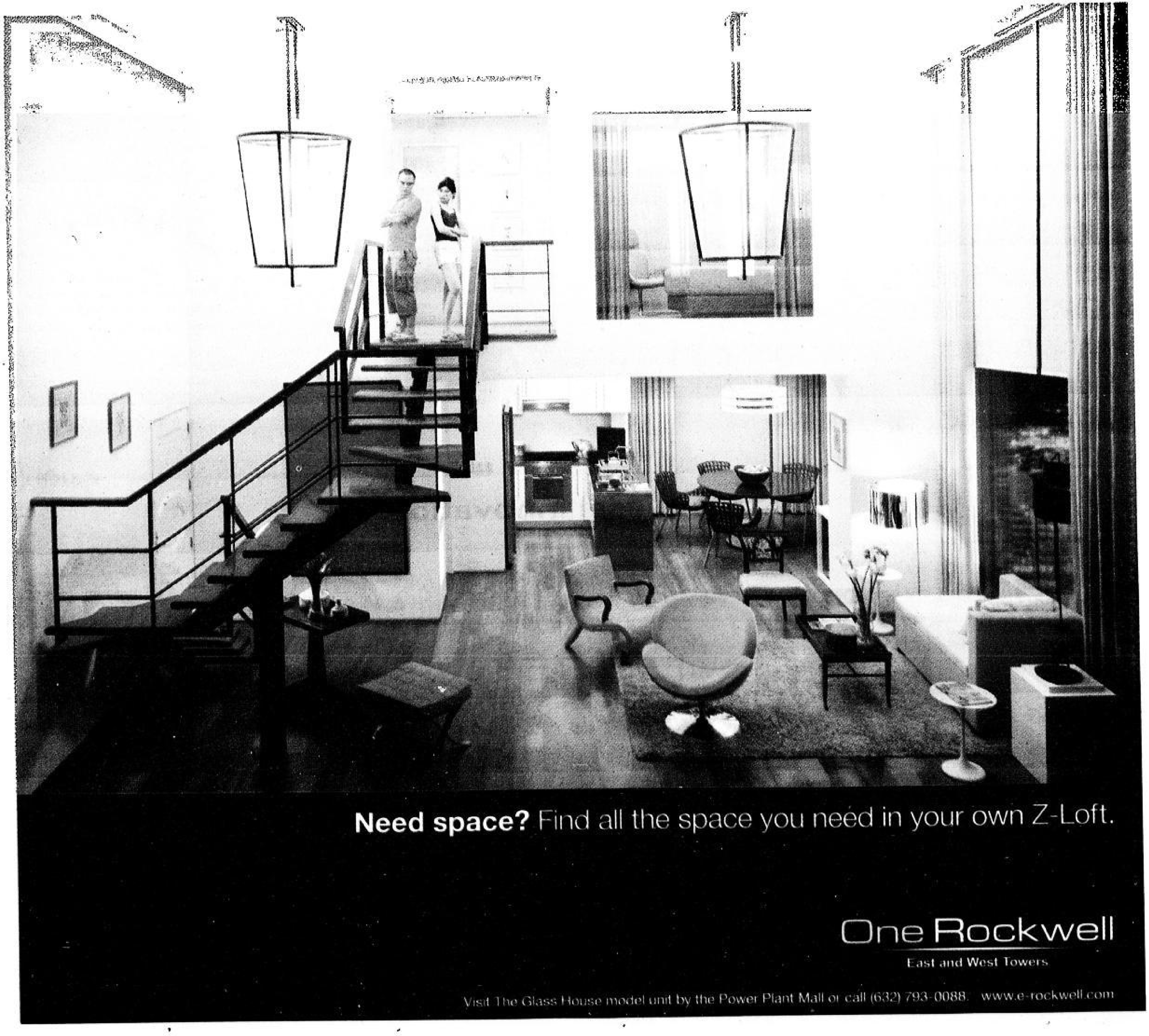

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Sunday Lifestyle

Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

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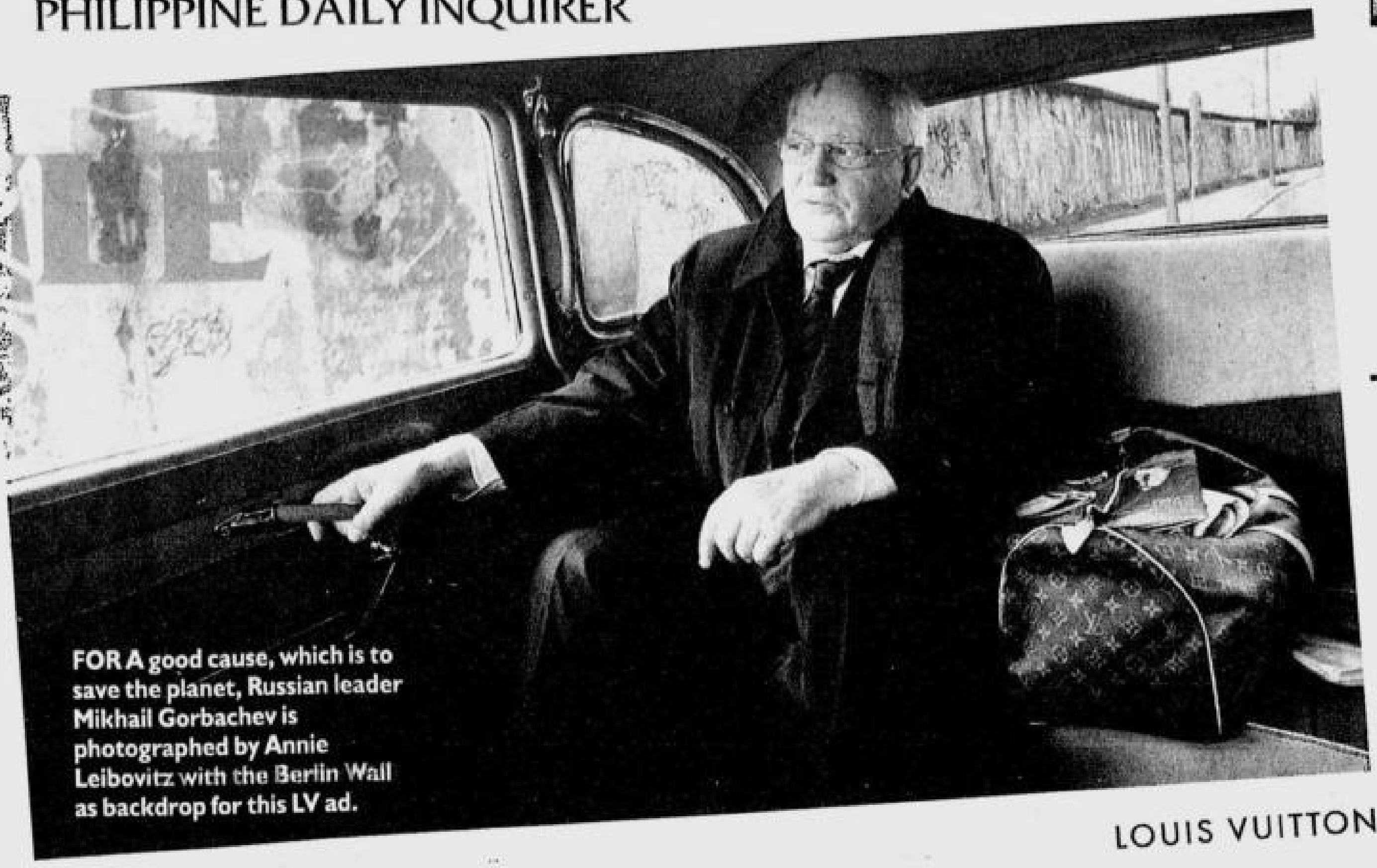


FOR A good cause, which is to save the planet, Russian leader Mikhail Gorbachev is photographed by Annie Leibovitz with the Berlin Wall as backdrop for this LV ad.

A journey brings us face to face with ourselves.
LOUIS VUITTON

Exalting the joys of travel

Mikhail Gorbachev, Catherine Deneuve, Andre Agassi and Stefi Graf are the new faces of leather-goods vanguard Louis Vuitton

By Chelo Banal-Formoso

"SHOW ME YOUR LUGGAGE and I'll tell you who you are." In 1921 that was the advertising slogan for Louis Vuitton, the French company that pioneered the art *du voyage*.

Almost nine decades later, Louis Vuitton has come to a fork on the advertising road. And instead of choosing to stay on the path it has taken all these years and continuing to come out solely with *tres* chic campaigns, the company is now complementing its seasonal fashion ads with a values-based corporate stand.

So along with the fabulous spreads of devastatingly beautiful women (current muse Scarlet Johansson was preceded by fellow Hollywood denizens Jennifer Lopez and Uma Thurman) in the glossies, the new Louis Vuitton core-value ads will very soon be running in major newspapers around the world, including the INQUIRER.

With the theme "Exceptional People, Exceptional Journeys," the new campaign interprets travel as a process of self-discovery. The focus is not on physical comings and goings, but on the emotions evoked by travel as a personal journey.

Travel roots

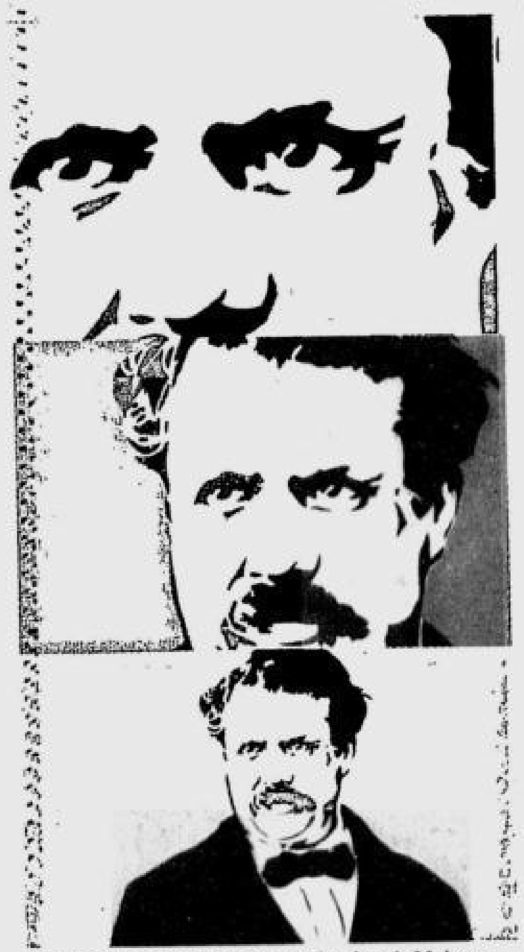
The advertising campaign returns the luxury leather-goods vanguard to its roots in the travel business. The 13-year-old Louis Vuitton who left his remote village in France's Jura mountains in search of a better life in Paris some 170 years ago ended up producing the most luxurious, expensive and desirable leather trunks, suitcases and traveller's accessories in the world.

The company he founded in 1854 has played a huge role in transforming the necessity of travelling into a fashionable and pleasurable experience.

For the new life-is-a-journey themed ads, instead of the usual ritzy and famous show-me-the-money endorsers, four fascinating and internationally renowned personalities have agreed to be photographed by top New York portraitist Annie Leibovitz.

They are international statesman and former USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachev, husband-and-wife tennis stars Andre Agassi and Steffi Graf, and French cinema icon Catherine Deneuve.

THE JOYS/ C2



STENCIL series of LV founder Louis Vuitton by artist Miss Tic

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Sometimes, home is just a feeling. take three, last day of
LOUIS VUITTON

Is there any greater journey than love?
LOUIS VUITTON

DOING their bit to spread the inconvenient truth about our dying planet, Catherine Deneuve (above) and couple Andre Agassi and Stefi Graf (left) are photographed in Paris and New York, respectively, by Leibovitz for the LV print ads.

The joys of t

From page C1

"We are delighted to be associated with such exceptional yet very different personalities, who illustrate the breadth and depth of Louis Vuitton's appeal," says Louis Vuitton chair and CEO Yves Carcelle in a press statement.

The series of portraits taken in travel-related settings is meant to evoke an instant in the life of each of these outstanding personalities "who have made extraordinary journeys in the course of full and fascinating lives."

The obvious question is, how much would a statesman like Gorbachev have to be paid to show up for such an endorsement?

And the answer is: No one from the new set of endorsers stands to profit in cash for their participation.

Rather, on their behalf, Louis Vuitton is making a donation to Al Gore's Climate Project. Specifically for Gorbachev, the donation will be made to Green Cross International, of which he is the founder and chair.

"Louis Vuitton's support for The Climate Project is a major statement about how one prestigious company is taking the climate crisis seriously, both in words and actions," says Gore in a press statement.

The Climate Project is a global program for "educating people about climate change and the solutions that will be necessary to solve the crisis."

No surprise

None of this is surprising, of course, coming from a company that, since 1992, has shown a keen concern for saving whatever is left of the earth's health in its manufacturing practices.

First and foremost of Louis Vuitton's environmental commitments is its dedication to producing high-quality products that last for generations. Its craftsmen work with natural materials such as wood, raffia, cotton and leather with respect. Its designers take into consideration the environmental impact of their products. Modern technologies help the company create products with less imprint on t

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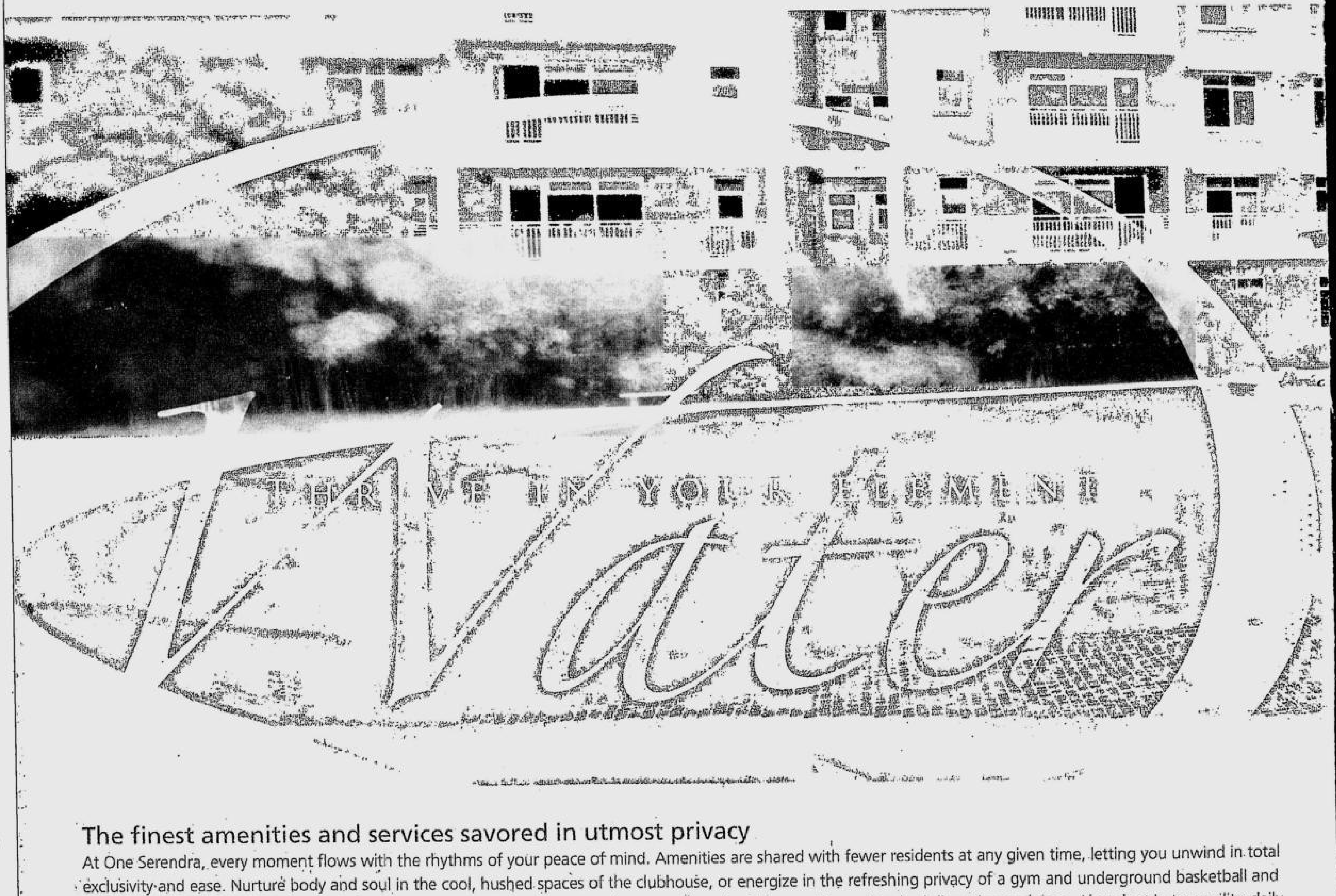

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TRAVEL BRIEFS

Arts and heritage in Antipolo tour

IF YOU ARE WONDERING HOW ARTS, nature, heritage and even Santa Claus can be enjoyed in one day, find out by joining Inscribe Tours' visit to Antipolo on Sept. 15. The tour starts at the Meralco-owned, resort-like MMLDC along Sumulong Highway, where the group will have breakfast, an aviary tour and bird show. Next stop is Assumption Antipolo for its butterfly haven. From here, the tour goes to the Our Lady of Good Voyage Cathedral and museum with its interesting collection of Virgin Mary vestments and other accoutrements. The highlight of the tour is a visit to Jardin de Miramar, an art haven with its various sculptures and the Casa Santa Museum. The latter houses a fascinating collection of more than 1,500 representations of Santa Claus, from blankets and Swarovski crystal figurines to a chessboard with Santa Claus as pawns and kings. From Jardin, the tour goes to Barangay Dalig for the showrooms and workshops of sisters-in-law and artists Lanel Abueva Fernando and Wendy Fernando Regalado. Check out Lanel's pottery works and Wendy's paper lamps, lanterns and other items, then go around Wendy's garden to see her collection of plants. Last stop is the Pinto Gallery with its impressive collection of paintings, sculptures and other art objects that resident artists and brothers Jim and Andy Orencio will talk about. Call 8405912 or 5758370. Discounts available for children and early birds.

BUY A LOFT, TRAVEL FOR FREE

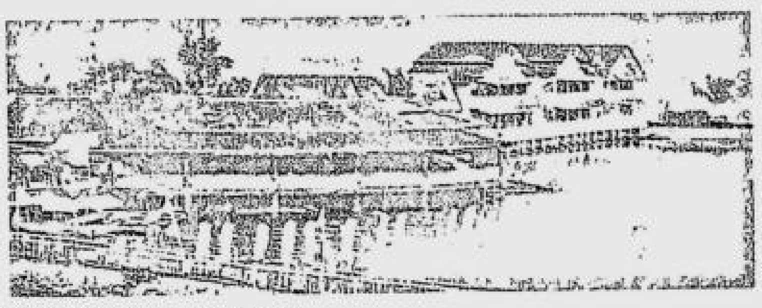
Buyers at Eton Emerald Lofts in Ortigas Center will earn 7,500 Philippine Airlines Mabuhay Miles for every P500,000 of a unit's total contract price. Eton properties Philippines, Inc. and PAL are both owned by Lucio Tan. Accumulated Mabuhay Miles can be converted into free travel to any PAL destination. One-bedroom units at the 41-story, twin-tower Eton Emerald Lofts will earn a minimum of 30,000 Mabuhay Miles while a two-bedroom unit earns at least 60,000 miles per person. Eton is near popular shopping centers in the Ortigas Center, The Medical City and Cardinal Santos, La Salle Green Hills and University of Asia and the Pacific. Call 7502828 or 0917-8943866; visit www.etonemeraldlofts.com.

RESIDENCE INN TAGAYTAY is a resort overlooking Taal Lake. Located at km. 65 Barrio Neogan, Tagaytay City, it offers overnight accommodation and has facilities for conferences and seminars. Its menu consists of Filipino and other Asian dishes. Among its various attractions are a serpentarium, aviary, honey bee farm, bonsai garden, game room, activity area, playground, souvenir shops and food kiosk. Special entertainment programs are offered Sundays and holidays like Magic Show, pantomime and steel walkers (call 8999824 or 8957142).

Welcome to
Sydney International Airport
First in the World - Sydney Welcomes the A380

MAKING AVIATION HISTORY

Singapore Airlines will make global aviation history when the A380 makes its first commercial flight from Singapore to Sydney on Oct. 25, returning to Singapore Oct. 26. To mark the momentous occasion, Singapore Airlines and Sydney Airport have unveiled a countdown clock to track the number of days until the arrival of the super-jumbo at Sydney Airport. The countdown clock is at the main entrance to Sydney Airport's T1 (the International Terminal). All proceeds from the sale of tickets on the first flight will be go to Singapore's Community Chest, Sydney's The Children's Hospital at Westmead and the Sydney Children's Hospital, and Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors without Borders).

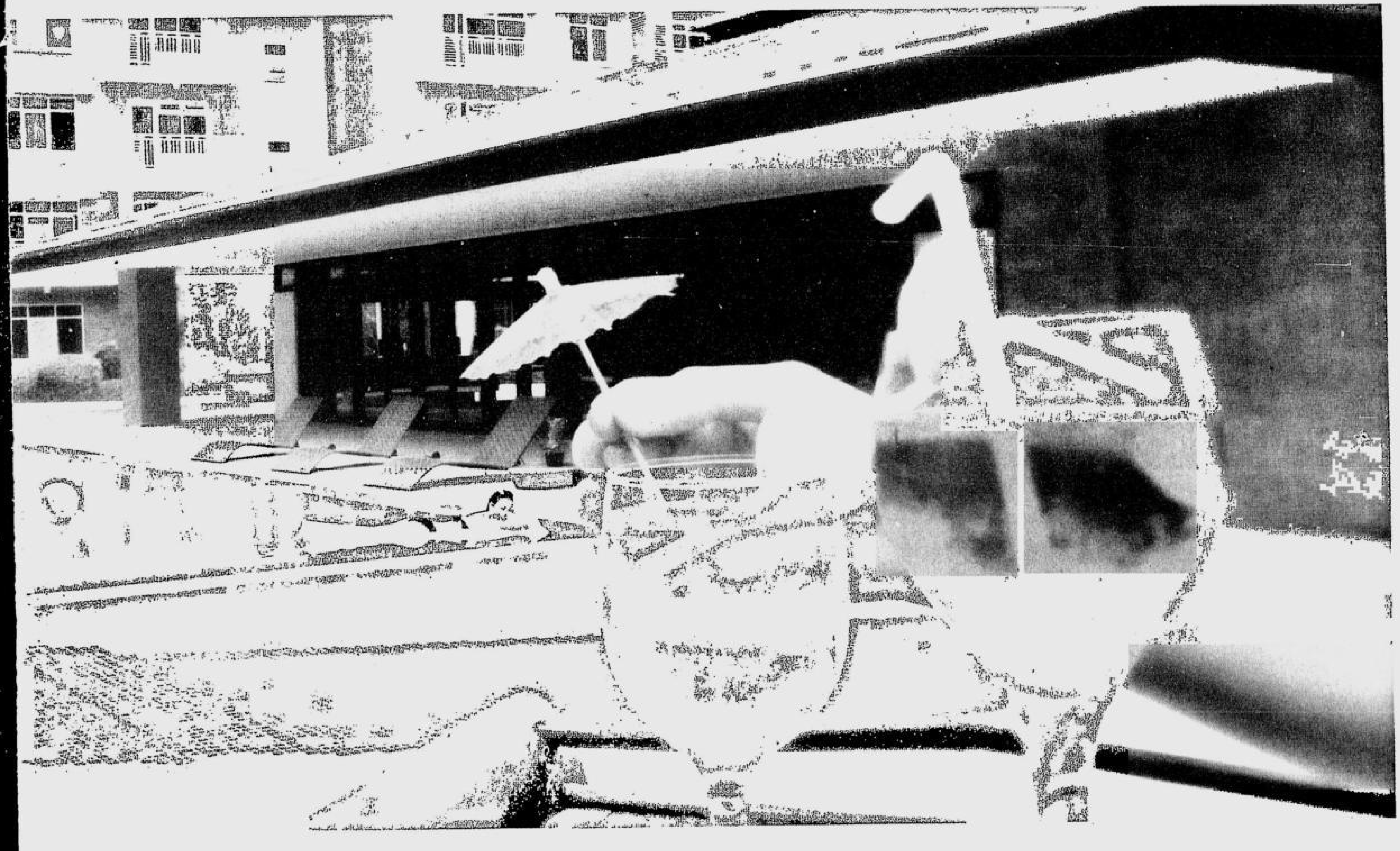


OFF-SEASON OFFER

Golden Sunset Resort and Spa in Calatagan, Batangas is offering off-peak season rates. The rainy day package of P2,000 per night and de luxe room rate of P2,800 per night include overnight stay with set breakfast for two, plus an inclusive one-hour body massage at the Serendipity Spa, among others. The promo is ongoing until Oct. 15. A weekday golf package of P2,030 at Calatagan Golf Club includes green fee, caddy fee and round-trip transfer from the resort to the club. Weekend rate is P3,130. Honeymoon packages are also being offered. Visit www.goldensunset.ph, 6343109 or 6361687.

RAINY-DAY PACKAGE

Puerto del Sol in Bolinao, Pangasinan, an exclusive seaside resort, is offering the rainy day package for P800 net/person for a group of 30-49 persons. The promo is applicable to all room types. The rate is P770 net/person for groups of 50 and above. Also check out the "two nights for a price of one night" special rate: Mansion Villas 1 and 3, P5,590 net; Bahay Kubo, P9,360 net; Casitas, P12,480 net; and Nipa Hut, P350 net per person. Every additional guest will be charged P980 net per night. Puerto del Sol is a member of the Resort Condominium International. Call 6378963 or 6312861; e-mail info@puertodelsol.com.ph; or visit www.puertodelsol.com.ph.



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EMILY'S POST
Emily Marcelo

Boyfriend wants to change her life

DEAR EMILY,

I am a 31-year-old secretary and I have been working abroad for the past nine years.

I never had a serious relationship in the Philippines but had one here. He is also an expatriate working with the police. He is of a different nationality, religion and a totally different culture.

We have been together for eight years after breaking up late last year.

I can say he has been wonderful throughout our eight years of relationship. We were together initially for two years but when his father learned about it, he was married off to his cousin.

He was not happy with this decision and with his wife. He came back to me and I, who had been head over heels in love with him, took him back right away.

He calls his wife his responsibility to his parents and me, his love. We continued our relationship with plans of getting married, as his religion allowed him to marry more than once.

In the beginning of our relationship, he accepted my own religion and how I wouldn't change it even if we got married and had children, until the time we planned to go to their court and sign the papers.

He began telling me I should change my way of living starting with the way I dressed and how I dealt with men—I should not even laugh with them.

This is going to be really difficult for me. I have to deal with lots of people and, in my department, I am the only woman.

He does not want me to attend parties, although I really do not enjoy going out. He also told me to try and think of converting to his religion for the sake of our future children, to which I really could not agree.

We broke off late last year and I have not seen or heard from him since.

The problem is I am still in love with him and I really do not feel like falling in love again with anybody. I am saving now for myself and my family's future. I have four siblings and nephews and a niece to take care of.

Can you help me decide as I am really planning to call him soon and make up just for the sake of having a child? Am I making the right decision?

CHING

Why, why, why are you trying to hit your head with a rock by pursuing this guy? Are you suicidal?

Run as far away from him as possible while you can. Could you not tell the wind was shifting?

First, he agreed that you could keep your religion. Then he started imposing rules that were meant to alter completely your whole being.

Granting your wish came true and had his child, are you so naive as to think he will stand by passively and not do anything about it? I do not think you will be so lucky!

And why are you limiting yourself in your choice of a life partner to this creep?

Is it because he was the first man in your life? Forget love and all that goobledygook you think you feel for him because the road you are insisting on taking may lead you to a cliff!

Think not once or twice but a million times before you even lift that phone and reconnect with him! You do not realize what a close call you have had till he left you.

Walk on bended knees and thank the heavens for sparing you from a possible lifetime of misery. If, however, you insist on pursuing your plan—hey, you are welcome to do the Holy Week flogging earlier than scheduled!

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. *Log on to www.pbs.gov.ph and listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.)*

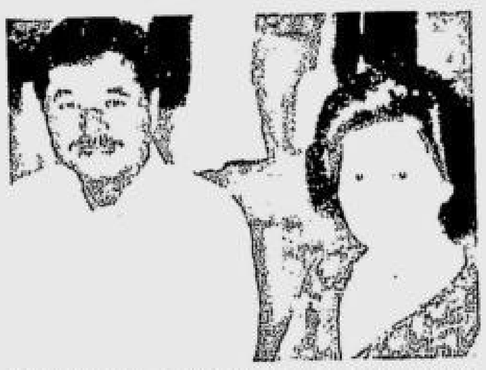
COUNCILOR Arsenio Pacaña, Janice and Rep. Ben Hur Salimbangon

AMPARITO Lhuillier, Elizabeth Francia and Teresin Mendezona

CEBU CEBU
Jaime Picornell

Cebu's 438th foundation anniversary

HONORARY Consul of Belgium Enrique Benedicto, Rachel and Angel Espiritu of the Cebu DFA office



JAPAN'S Consul Shikegazu Sakunaga and Tina Benedicto, honorary consul-general of Turkey

GOV. Gwendolyn Garcia and Vice Governor Greg Sanchez led the celebration of the 438th anniversary of Cebu province, created through a royal decree of Spain's King Philip II in 1569.

This year is special as the magnificent provincial capitol is now 70 years old. One of the highlights of the program was the unveiling of two oil portraits of Cebu governors Sotero Cabahug, who started the capitol's construction, and Buenaventura Rodriguez during whose term it was inaugurated.

Their families were well-represented. Governor Cabahug's daughter, Guadalupe, was accompanied by her husband Raul Latonio. She congratulated the artist, Tony Vidal.

For Governor Rodriguez, it was his first cousin Carmen Rodriguez de Martinez who came. "It is a remarkable likeness," she told artist Ronilo Abayan who used a small photo from the Capitol's pre-war archives.

She said she remembered the inauguration in 1937 attended by President Manuel Quezon. "He came with his family on the presidential yacht, and they attended the grand ball to mark the event," she said.

"I danced all night," she recalled. "You know, my cousin Tura, he loved to dance, so he made sure the capitol had a ballroom." But she admitted she was not as daring as another cousin, Maria Luisa Rodriguez.

Another relative who shall not be named volunteered that Maria Luisa and her friends would step out of the ballroom, climb a staircase and slide down the banister in a flutter of chiffon panels.

"There were always dashing gentlemen to catch them," she said with a wink and a raised eyebrow.

Governor's inaugural

These memories were recounted a week later when the ballroom of the capitol was filled with flowers, blazing lights and scarlet draperies for Governor's Night.

This served as the inaugural of Governor Gwen's second mandate as Cebu's first woman governor. The Garbo sa Sugbu award was also presented.

Recipients brought pride to Cebu locally, nationally and internationally, said Sam Costanilla, the evening's host. In this exalted list this year are:

Nicholas Pacaña, ballet dance and choreographer based in Atlanta, Georgia, directs the Festival Ballet. He was represented by his uncle, Cebu City Councilor Arsenio Pacaña, who is with the Cultural and Historical Affairs Commission.

Steve Benitez, who has opened over 30 Bo's coffee houses, is planning to open more. In Cebu, the rumor is he outsells the Starbucks outlet.

Antonio Oposa Jr., the quintessential environmentalist, was recognized for pioneering the practice of environmental law in the country. He leads the Visayas Sea Squadron and the Law of Nature Foundation. He is on the United Nations Environmental Roll of Honor. After his speech, he passed by our table to whisper that he read "Cebu Cebu" in PDI.

Junjet Primor is choreographer par excellence and director of many a spectacular pageant for almost 20 years now. He did the evening's show and was purposely not told about the award so it would be a surprise. He came bounding up the stage as he fixed his cuff links.

Special awards

Some special "Garbo" awards were also handed out. Purita Baltazar, principal of the University of the Philippines Cebu Campus High School, went up with two of her students. They received two awards for entries to the International Schools Cyberspace Competition that featured Cebu—"Calles de Cebu—Gateway to a Nation's History" and "Beauty within Three Cities." To think that the students do not even have computers in their homes.

Monsignor Roberto Alesna and Fr. Francis Balili were cited for the Cebu-Citizens Involvement and Maturation in People's Empowerment and Liberation, mercifully shortened to C-Cimpel. Its volunteers have, for many years, now been recognized for their courage in protecting the sanctity of the ballot and upholding the integrity of the electoral process.

Ambassador Mariano Paynor was given an award for his efforts in ensuring the success of the 12th Asean Summit in Cebu. "You did so well," he told Governor Gwen in his speech, "that the next host, Singapore, is worried about how to top Cebu."

Among those present were Governor Gwen's parents, former Cebu Governor Pablo Garcia and Judge Esperanza Fiel Garcia; her brother Congressman Pablo John Garcia and his wife Karen; her cousin Sonny Garcia and wife Armi Lopez, recently installed as the Russian Federation's honorary consul in Cebu; her chief of staff Elizabeth Francia; Congressman Ben Hur Salimbangon and wife Janice, and sister Mariquita S. Yeung.

Teresin Mendezona and Marissa Fernan made plans with Michel and Amparito Lhuillier for a grand *chapitre* of La Chaine des Rotisseurs in March. The event will bring people from all over the world to four gourmet events - two in Manila and two in Cebu.

There will be a Filipiniana night at the Shangri-la in Mactan and probably a welcome night at the Cebu Provincial Capitol.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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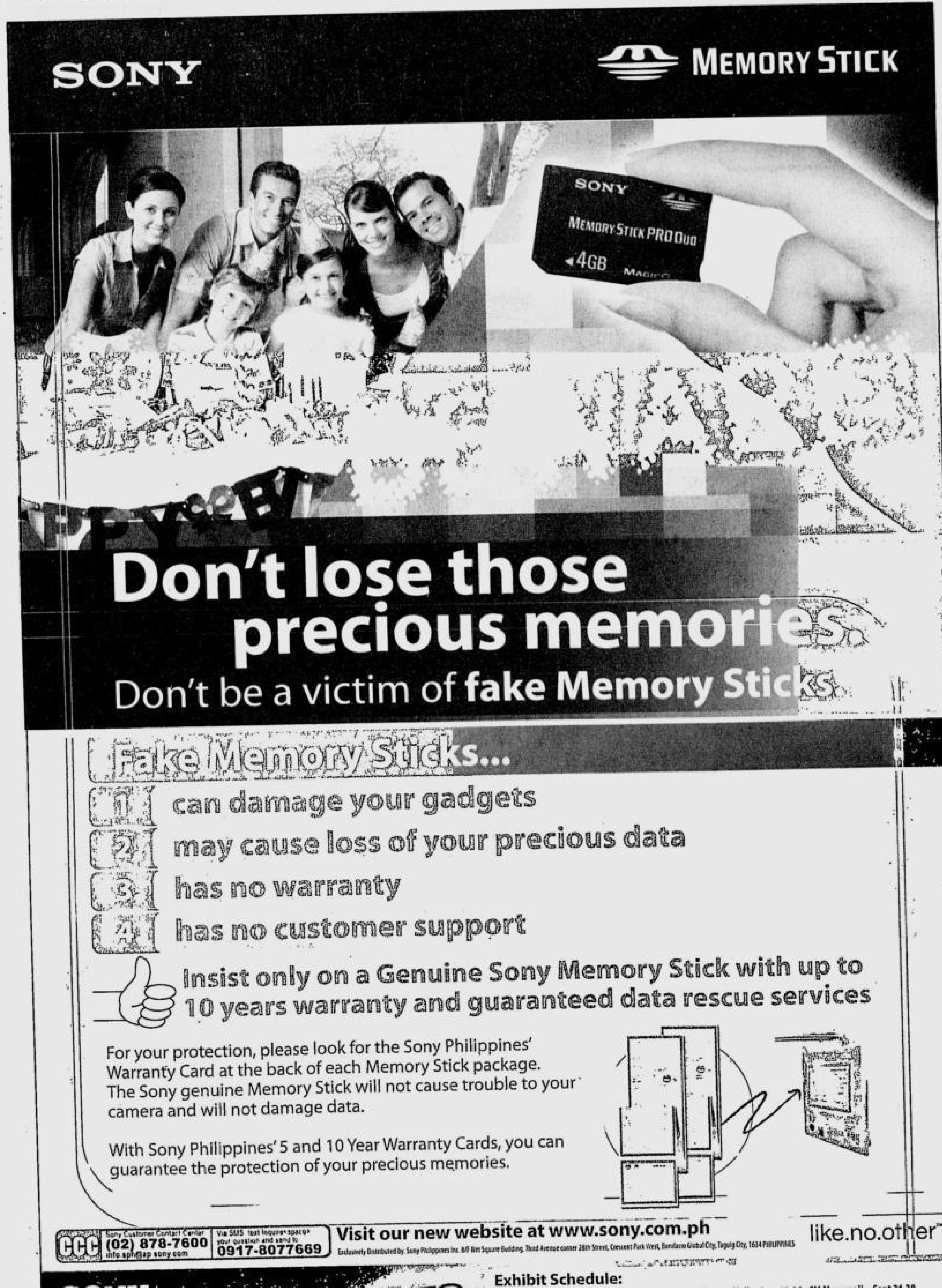

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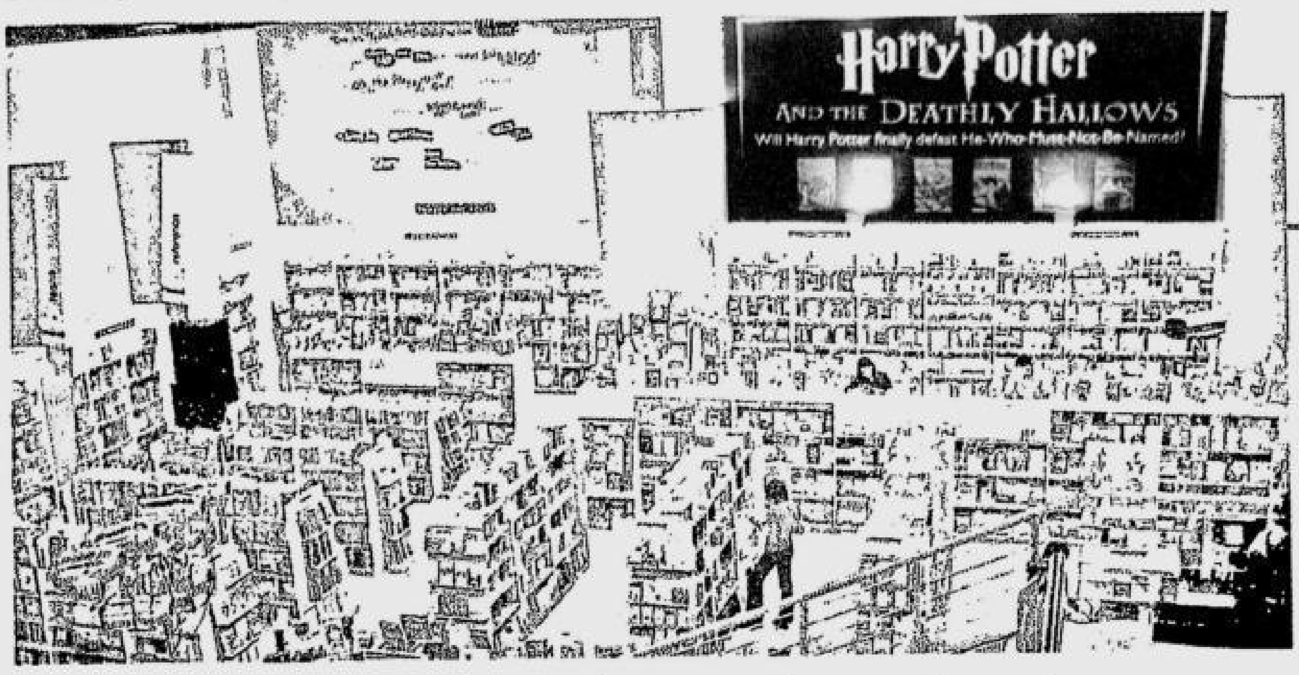
SONY COOL ADVENTURES 2007
Jul 12 to Sept 30, 2007

Exhibit Schedule:
MANILA: Alabang Town Center – Aug 24-30 • Trinoma Mall – Sept 10-16 • SM Megamall – Sept 24-30
LUZON: CSI Mall Dagupan – Aug 29-Sept 4 • LCC Mall- Naga – Sept 7-14
VISAYAS: Ayala Center Cebu – Aug 28-Sept 3 • SM Iloilo Manduriao – Sept 10-16 • SM Bacolod – Sept 24-30
MINDANAO: Valencia City Gym – Sept 21-23 • KCC Mall Gensan – Aug 24-Sept 2
• Bgy San Miguel MP Hall Iligan – Sept 7-9 • Medina Gym Ozamis – Sept 14-16
• Freedom Park Tagum – Sept 28-30

Per DTI-NCR Permit No: 2453 Series of 2007

Sunday LIFESTYLE



BESTSELLERS has rows and rows of books with roomy aisles that allow hassle-free browsing.

Parents who love books beget reading children

ROOTS AND WINGS

Cathy Babao-Guballa

FOR SOME WOMEN, ARMANI, Prada and Cavalli make their world spin. For others, it's Manolo Blahnik, Jimmy Choo and Marc Jacobs.

I'm a strange one: Paolo Coelho and Mitch Albom, Anne Tyler and Elizabeth Berg make my day.

For as far back as I can remember, books have always been such a huge part of my world. News of the 28th Manila International Bookfair at the World Trade Center has me all giddy with anticipation. And it's not just me, it's our entire household.

There are three lessons that I always pass on to other parents when it comes to developing a love for the written word. One, you need to be a role-model for the love for reading. Two, expose your child to a wide array of books and encourage him or her to find favorites. And three, especially at a young age, it is very important to read to your child and interact with him or her as you read.

In my own life I had a teacher, Iluminda Woelhaff of the Philippine Montessori Center in White Plains, who would take me aside and teach me how to read. The memory remains vivid to this day, of how she would gently read to me and listen to me as I read.

I also had a father who sat me on his knee every weekend and together, we would listen to records of Danny Kaye reading "Aesop's Fables." The record had an accompanying book and he would point out the words to me as we read together.

When I was 8 years old, we would scour Alemar's and Erehwon in Makati for the latest book in the Nancy Drew mystery series. To this day, I have kept these hardbound, yellow-spined books and passed them on to my daughter Pia.

Book allowances

As a parent, I give my kids book allowances. The practice began when Pia was around 5 years old. After school, I would take her every Friday afternoon and gave her an amount that she was free to spend on whatever book she had her eyes on.

Today, one entire wall in her bedroom is packed with the books she loves, running the gamut from Nancy Drew notebooks to books by Jostein Gaarder, Banana Yoshimoto, and many others, all arranged according to author!

The boys in our family, meaning my husband and my son, have their own unique collections as well.

I asked Anvil publisher Karina Bolasco what her favorite book as a child was, and she told me that growing up in Lipa, Batangas, in the 1960s, there weren't any bookstores.

Karina said: "There were encyclopedia salesmen and my first series was a 10-vol-

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Child-care advocacy receives great boost from cosmetics leader

AVON'S grantee, Cory Arevalo

LEARN & Play program

"IN ORDER TO BUILD A STRONGER society, we have to start educating our citizens at an early age," says Socorro Arevalo, a child care advocate who received Avon's first Hello Tomorrow grant in the Philippines. By supporting the efforts of one committed woman, Avon is now helping hundreds of poor kids say hello to a brighter tomorrow.

Arevalo, or "Tita Cory" as she is fondly called, was awarded the grant for her Learn and Play Program, which trains women from poor areas as "mother teacher volunteers (MTVs)." These women provide day care services to children 6 years old and below from their own communities, and also train other mothers as volunteer workers. Since it started in 2004, the project has provided informal preschool education and creative nurturing to hundreds of children, and has empowered over 200 women to make a difference in their own and others' lives.

Real impact on real lives

Bright-eyed with eagerness and excitement, groups of a dozen to around 30 children gather everyday to read aloud from picture books, make colorful artworks, and play interactive games. It's just like any scene from an average preschool class, except that these children are huddled together in the living room of a makeshift house or sitting on plastic chairs in a tiny backyard in the bleakest neighborhoods of Manila.

Their teachers are mothers with a volunteer spirit—ordinary women who are not highly educated and have no specialized skills, but are now making valuable contributions towards changing the world, one child at a time.

Upon Tita Cory's arrival, the kids stand up and politely greet their special visitor. She talks animatedly with the children, then announces that she is going to teach them a new song. The kids listen with rapt attention as she sings, and in five minutes, they've learned the lyrics and tune and are happily singing along. "They are so eager to learn, so thirsty for knowledge. We only need to find creative ways to respond to their needs," exclaims Tita Cory, all flushed and energetic.

The volunteer teachers are similarly inspired by their students' progress. Gloria Lorenzo, who has been with the program from the start, shares that she has learned a lot of things by participating in Learn and Play: "I've learned that it's important to give back to your community, and to do your share for your own children and for the next generation. I also realized that poverty need not be an obstacle to these goals."

Lorenzo's newfound confidence motivated her to go back to school and finish her college degree. Other volunteers have found steady jobs as day care teachers or public sector employees because of the skills that they gained as volunteer workers.

Early start for better tomorrow

A veteran advocacy worker, Tita Cory had been involved in various nonprofit organizations when she came up with the idea for Learn and Play. Interacting with women and kids from marginalized sectors made her realize the importance of proper intervention in early childhood care and development.

She initially planned to train 10 women from depressed areas like Baseco, Parola, and Smokey Mountain as volunteer teachers. Her trainees grew to over 40 in less than a year when the pioneers started inviting other women from their communities.

Now, three years later, more than a hundred women are actively teaching in small day care centers in even the poorest areas. Tita Cory stressed that this wealth of human resources is what makes the program so effective and sustainable. "There are a lot of good people in the neediest localities. We just have to empower them so that they can help themselves," she asserts.

The Learn and Play curriculum emphasizes positive values such as faith, love of country, self-affirmation, and concern for the environment. The teachers use creative approaches like songs and games, as well as basic teaching aids acquired through donations, to present the lessons. Classes are held two hours daily for five days every week.

"Without the day care centers, these children would be out on the streets, exposed to all kinds of dangerous influences," Tita Cory reminds us. "We are working to transform these communities and change people's lives for the better."

"The grant from Avon reaffirmed what I have always believed: that this project should continue and expand," she says. She plans to use the grant to provide the students with more educational materials, as well as to strengthen the networking and advocacy efforts of their volunteers. "If Learn and Play can uplift the life of even just one woman or one child, this is my assurance that we need to keep going. I may not even see the results in my lifetime, but I know that we are working towards a better future."

The Avon Hello Tomorrow fund provides additional resources to existing projects that help to empower women. Throughout the year, a P100,000 grant will be given monthly to one deserving individual or organization.

KIDZ Republic has brightly colored slides, tubes, cylinders and other activity spots for kids to enjoy.

New kiddie center

KIDZ REPUBLIC IS A JUNGLE-inspired, safari-theme amusement center. It has brightly-colored and adventure-filled activity spots that kids will enjoy.

Kidz Republic also offers classes on music and the arts.

The Jungle playground has fun activity spots such as mazes, tubes, hanging bridges, and air cannons.

Children can also play on climbing pieces, navigate obstacle courses of different shapes and sizes, swing on trapeze bars and rope ladders, and jump into colorful ball pools.

Playing in Kidz Republic comes with learning. The activity center aims to enhance and develop the creativity, motor skills and social skills of youngsters.

Adults can hang out in the recreation areas while playing with their children or while eating at the menu bar, café and ice cream houses.

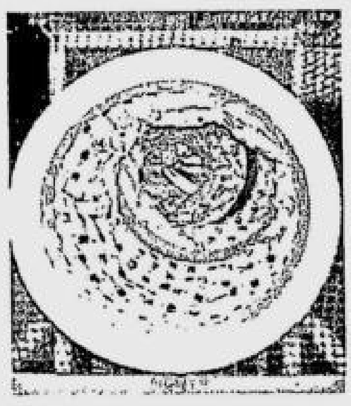
Kidz Republic offers party packages. Children can celebrate their birthdays with close friends and guests while being entertained by Kidz Republic's resident mascots.

Group tours for at least 10 children are also available.

Kidz Republic is at the 2/L of North Arcade (just above SM Hypermart) of SM Mall of Asia.

Call 5560958, (63) 922858-KIDZ (5439) or 0918-9555559. Visit www.kidzrepublic.com.ph.

Kidz Republic also offers inflatables called Kidz Republic Bounce Around, available in SM Baguio, SM Clark, SM North Edsa, SM Fairview, SM Marilao, SM Sta. Rosa, SM San Fernando, SM Manila and SM Mall of Asia.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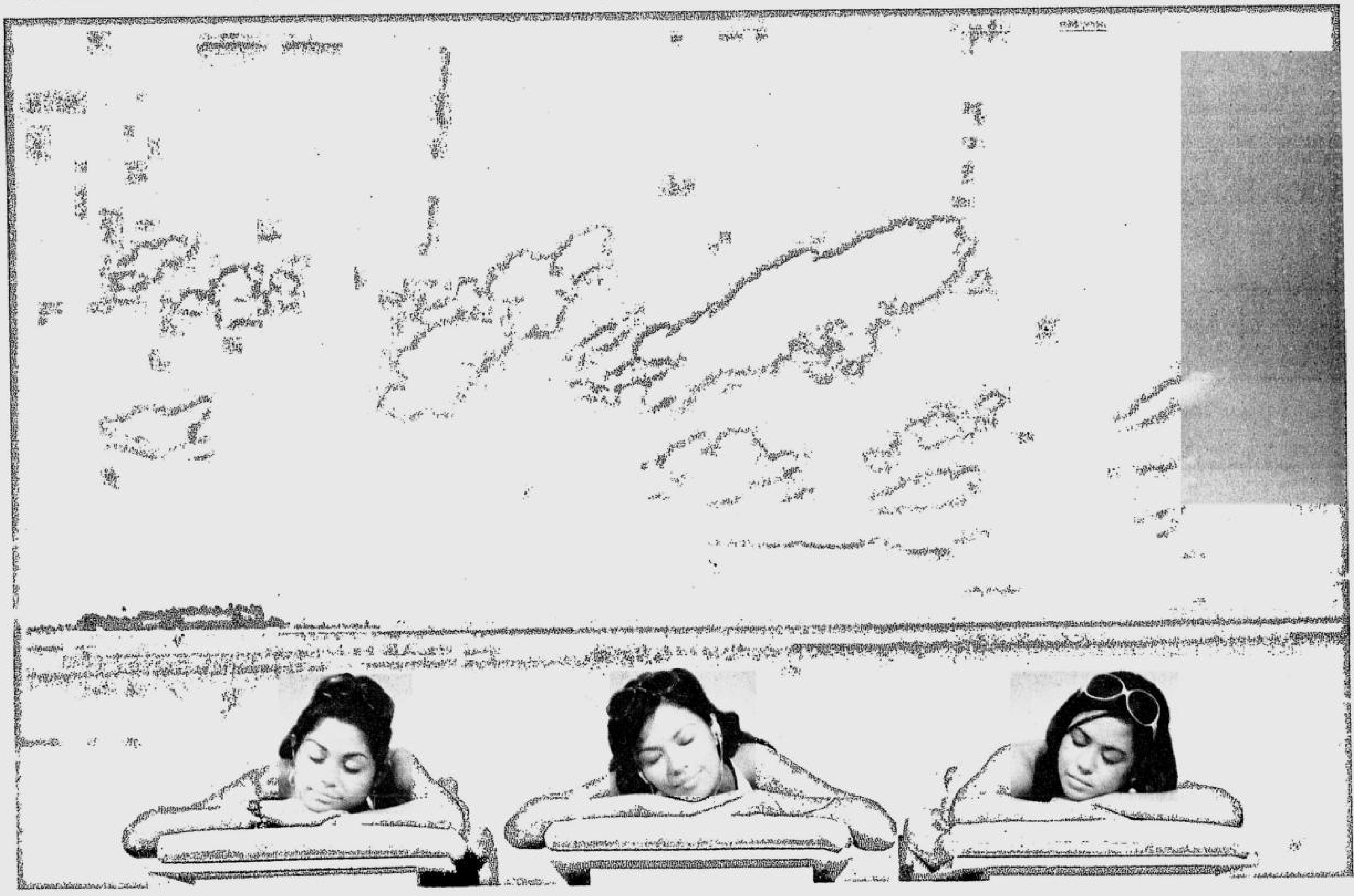

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10 ways to teach beginning readers

By Queena N. Lee-Chua

READING IS AN ENJOYABLE AND inexpensive activity. We can explore new worlds, experience other cultures and broaden our minds. When our Ateneo de Manila team surveyed top students of several public and private schools, we found that reading for pleasure is one habit they have all developed.

However, with the onslaught of the multimedia, reading print seems to have become a chore, to be done only when teachers assign chapters or stories. Reading well requires concentration, which many hyperactive children lack. They prefer to seek solace in TV or movies rather than books.

> Reading well requires concentration, which many hyperactive kids lack

"My Grade 3 son is already 9 years old, and he does not like to read," says a mother. "Which reading centers do you recommend?"

"Let's focus on you and your husband," I continue. "Do you take time to read every day? Does your child see any of you read a novel or a magazine?"

"We are so tired when we come home from work," she reports. "So we just relax in front of the TV. We don't really have time to read anything."

Can this child learn to love reading, when he does not see anyone in the home do so? In our surveys, good students read because their parents invest time and effort early on, such as narrating bedtime stories to their kids or sitting patiently with them as they start to read. Teachers whose students are struggling to read should confer with parents, and advise them that they are the best role models for their kids.

Mister
Hipon and Biya

Develop the habit

Ideally, the reading habit should be developed in childhood. There is no set age for children to start reading, though most kids manage to read basic words by age 5. Here are 10 ways to help beginning readers:

1. Choose books suitable for the child's level. The book should be challenging enough to attract interest, but not too difficult as to dampen enthusiasm. One Grade I teacher complained that her class did not like simplified versions of the classics.

I urged her to read books on dinosaurs and cars, since the ideas contained in classics might be too complex for the kids at this stage. The tactic worked. I reminded her that once her students learned to love reading, they would gravitate to the classics later on.

I Don't Like to Eat!
Chasing Vermeer
Blue Balliett
Brett Helquist

2. Let children choose their own books, whether in the store or in the library. Kids have diverse interests. Even though teachers can recommend good books, and libraries post recommendations of Newberry or Caldecott prize winners, children should be encouraged to make their own choices. On our monthly trips to the bookstore, my son Scott is allowed to pick any two books he likes, subject to my approval.

For instance, because the "Captain Underpants" series contains toilet humor, I refuse to buy them for him. But when the mood strikes him, he can read these books in his school library if he wants.

3. Set aside a regular time and place to read to or with children. If they are having problems, parents or teachers can start by reading out loud to them. Then they can take turns with the child, until finally the child is the one reading the book.

4. Check whether children understand what they read. Listen for halts, and look at where children stutter or frown. Ask questions: "What happens to the water if the bird drops another stone?" or "Why is Sister Bear crying?"

5. Do not correct beginning readers too much. If they mispronounce a word, resist the urge to correct them immediately. Listen first to the whole sentence to see if the mistake has changed the meaning of the story. If it has, wait to see if they notice. If not, stop them at the end of the sentence and ask: "Does that make sense?"

Comprehension

6. Remember that understanding the story is more important than perfection. As long as children get the gist of the story, they will be motivated enough to continue reading. If corrected at every phrase, they may soon lose interest. Note that this principle holds only for beginning readers. When students reach middle school, reading should be practically word perfect.

7. Ask children to relate the story in their own words. What is the main idea? Can they act out what happened in the story? After Scott read "King Arthur," he was so inspired by tales of knights that he staged mock battles with his dad, complete with a plastic sword and a paper shield.

8. Ask children to talk about the pictures in the book. "Have you ever seen a dog playing the trumpet?" or "Where does Maria Makiling live?" Children can draw what they see in their mind when they read. Ask them to describe pertinent scenes.

9. Link the story to children's experiences. "Do you think Matt feels the way you did when your pet fish died?" or "If you were in Brother Bear's shoes, what will you do?" Make reading a game. Ask kids to read the restaurant menu. Urge them to make up words from license plates. Play Junior Scrabble, available at many stores.

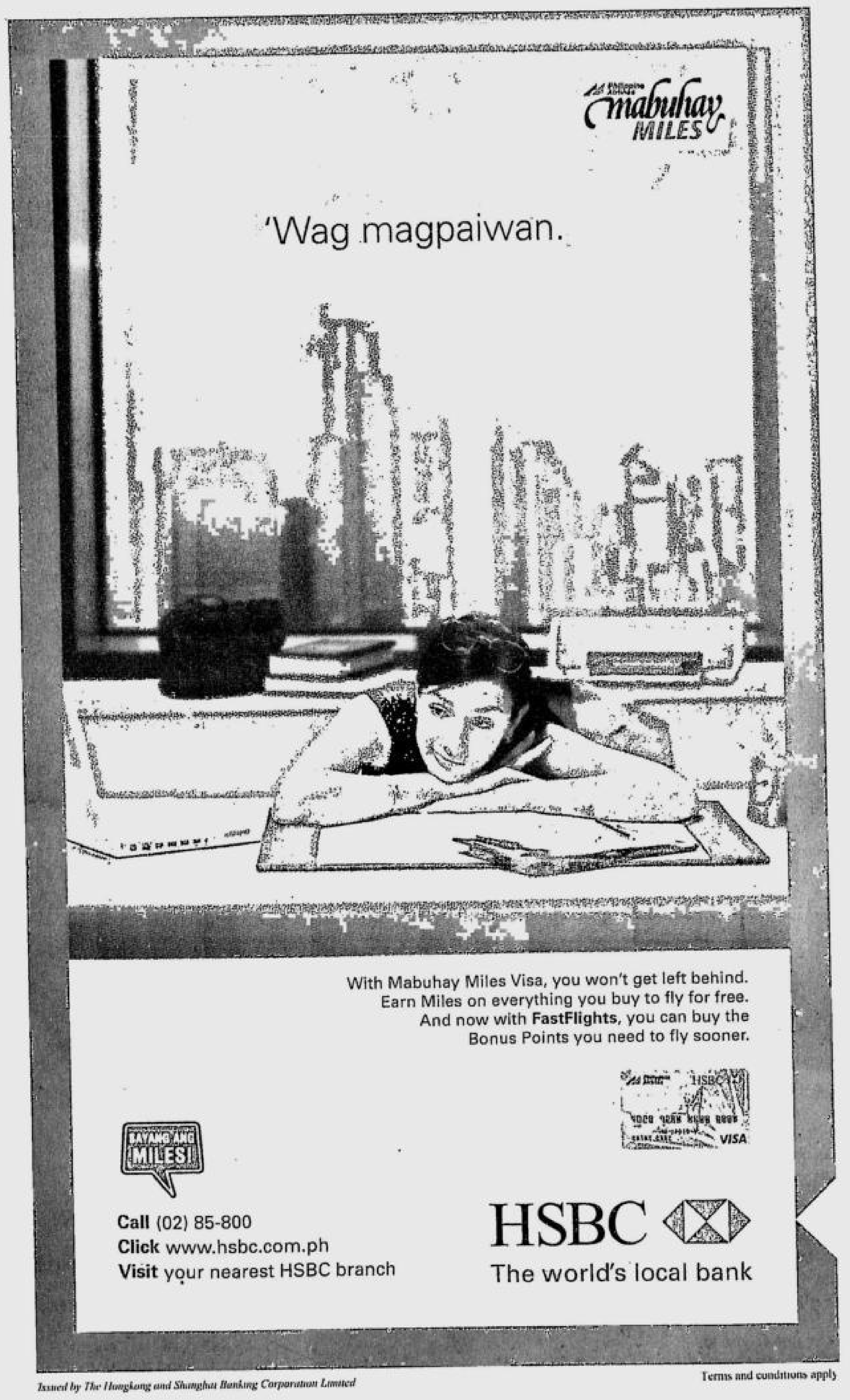
10. The most important tip of all is: Model the reading habit. Early on, Scott learned to love reading because everyone in the house was doing so. His grandfather read the newspaper; his dad, business books; his *yaya*, women's magazines. Scott was holding a book in his hand and gazing at its pages before he could walk. In school, he would go to the library at lunch break, and according to the librarians, he is now a model to other students.

As with any habit, do not exert too much pressure on beginning readers. If they resist, perhaps the session is too long, the book too complex, the criticisms too many.

Also, many children up to Grade IV may need to read out loud to help them understand what is on the page, especially if the material is complex. However, older children who still do this even for simple words may need to consult a specialist.

E-mail the author at blessbook@yahoo.com

EXPOSE your child to a wide array of books and encourage him or her to find favorites.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Parents who love . . .

From page D1

ume Children's Classic series in hardbound maroon covers which had pen and inks and a few full-page four-color illustrations, which looked more like paintings." Spoken like a true book publisher!

She loved "Alice in Wonderland," "Little Women," "Treasure Island," to name a few, but her favorite was "Knights of The Round Table." "Merlin fascinated my young mind. I even put into music his incantations."

A close friend of ours, former Accenture CEO Jaime del Rosario, had always struck me to be a highly articulate and erudite man. Author Butch Dalisay, Del Rosario and my husband were classmates at the Philippine Science High School in the late 1960s.

He told me that as a 9-year-old he would read and reread "Gulliver's Travels," "Tom Sawyer," "Huckleberry Fin," "Black Beauty," "Heidi," "Call of the Wild" and many other titles that appealed to a young boy that age in the 1960s. "The Book of Knowledge" was his regular reference companion and "William Tell," "King Arthur" and the "Iron Man" were his childhood heroes.

"We weren't rich but my mom would scour garage sales of American families for books and hardbound books on sale for P1 at PECO," he recalled.

Sen. Pia Cayetano described herself as a "Nancy Drew serial addict." She said she loved Nancy's courage, smarts and compassion. In the summer, Pia would tag along with mom Sandra, a preschool teacher, and shop for books. "I would go with her to school in the summertime and sit around reading all the books in their library while she worked."

Pia said her dad, the late Sen. Rene Cayetano, was an avid reader. "My memory of him is he always had books lined up to read."

Bookstores

Nowadays, we are blessed to have so many wonderful bookstores that present us and our children with a wide array of books to choose from.

My personal favorites are Books For Less across the University of Asia and the Pacific where you can get good quality books at very reasonable prices; PowerBooks branch at Greenbelt, which has a large children's book area; Bestsellers bookstore on the fourth floor of Robinsons Galleria, which has rows and rows of books with roomy aisles that allow hassle-free browsing and an orange-and-white mod theme that gives it a refreshing ambiance.

Then, of course, there's the book lover's mecca—the five-story Fully Booked on Bonifacio High Street, which to my mind has every imaginable book on the planet. The first time I stepped into this Fully Booked branch I felt like I died and went to book heaven.

I don't know if it's just me but I noticed that as I aged, my reading speed seemed to slow down. I became alarmed one day when my children told me: "Mom, you read so slow!"

To remedy that, I went to see the grandmother of all reading specialists, Dr. Aurora Roldan, who has been running Reading Dynamics (tel. 6335744 or 6335745) for many decades now.

Roldan was responsible for bringing the beloved speed-reading program into our schools back in the 1960s. Still very sharp and witty, she put me on an Executive Reading Program that has, thankfully, improved my reading speed tremendously. Though I still can't read as fast as my daughter does—she finished the latest "Harry Potter" in just five hours—at least I'm getting there.

If you wish to improve your reading speed and comprehension or your child's, try the Reading Dynamics Center. It has excellent programs for kids and adults that address the need to speed read.

E-mail the author at cathybabao@gmail.com

WITH cousins

WITH friends Jelc, Joaqui, Franz, Monica and Paddy

THE DEBUTANTE with mom Adele

Paris in bloom

Paris Adele A. Silva recently marked her debut with a Mediterranean-inspired celebration at Prince of Jaipur in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig

IT WAS HER TIME TO bloom and spread her wings. Paris Adele A. Silva marked her debut with a Mediterranean-inspired celebration last month at Prince of Jaipur in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig.

The debutante is the youngest child of the late Brig. Gen. Arsenio R. Silva and Adele Arada. Guests included her family and relatives from Lipa, Batangas; church friends from Victory Christian Fellowship-Lipa; classmates and friends from The University of Asia and the Pacific; and friends from John Robert Powers who came in their white ensembles.

The party began with a heartfelt introductory video of Paris' life made by good friend Jean Santos. It was followed by Paris' belly-dancing number choreographed by Luiggi Santos.

Paris' brother, Dexter, also serenaded the debutante, after which the traditional 18 Gems started on cue. The lineup began with her sister and her Godchild Ayleen and Dana Benitez, followed by relatives and friends: Kathleen Lopez, Elys Suilan, Boop Santos, Love Ng, Paui Reyes, Janina Miranda, Kristine Alvarez, Rica Camacho, May Lingao, Monica Gameng, Trizia Lim, Aimee Vistan represented by Joan Reyes, Kristine Benitez, Malou de Guzman, Sara Macasaet, Stella Librojo. Lastly, Paris' mom gave her a gold diamond ring that the debutante's dad had wanted to give on her 18th birthday before he passed away.

There were also presentations by Jaipur's very own belly dancers during dinner. Paris' church friends, including Sherijoy Laguna, Aaron Panaligan, Dexter Pilā and Arthur Hipolito, performed some of the debutante's favorite ditties. After dinner, Paris changed into her next wardrobe, a long matte-gold, bare-back serpentina gown designed by Beneth Cabales of Fashion Forward.

A special dance number was also performed by Paris' spiritual mentors, namely, Pastors Ray de Guzman, Robert Buen and Louie Santos.

Instead of the usual 18 Roses, the men gave Paris 18 pairs of shoes. This very creative and unique "ceremony" was executed by Maj. Dante Benitez (also her first dance), followed by Paris' closest male friends: Wesley de Guzman, Jericho Atienza, Franz Garcia, Chris Guzman, Joaqui Gallardo, Sean Go, Lovell Macasaet represented by Paulo Lopez, Luiggi Santos, Aaron Panaligan, Cyrus Vatcha, Ronnie Reyes, Jac Macasaet and Dexter Macasaet.

Aside from giving Paris 18 pairs of shoes, the men were made to dance to upbeat music instead of slow sweet tunes. This part of the program definitely had the guests laughing and cheering the whole time.

Paris' debut cake, a six-foot colorful Mediterranean-inspired fondant cake, was made by Layers and Layers. After the singing of the birthday song, the debutante thanked all the people around her. She also presented a special video as a tribute to the man whom she loves and misses so much, her dad.

Paris also called her mom onstage and surprised her with a video that Paris personally made for her. This was certainly an emotional moment for everyone. It was quickly followed by a toast by Paris' brother-in-law, Maj. Dante Benitez, before the dance floor was opened. Each guest took home a box of fondant cake as souvenir.

"My party is by far the most perfect and greatest highlight of my entire life. I thank God's love and faithfulness. He has given me a loving family and a lot of great friends," said Paris in closing.

CAKE by Layers and Layers

Winning was a pleasant surprise

For Teresita A. Calantas, an English professor based in Tokyo, Japan, her last vacation in her hometown Iloilo proved to be an unforgettable holiday. Who would have thought that a deposit account at BPI Jaro Iloilo Mc Arthur branch would actually be her ticket to winning a complete home entertainment package from BPI A World of Compliments promo?

"I've never won a raffle before. I was already in Japan when my sister informed me that I won something from BPI. At first, I kind of half-believed her. I only became excited about the prize after talking to Ms. Nenette Hosenilla of BPI. The prize was a pleasant surprise."

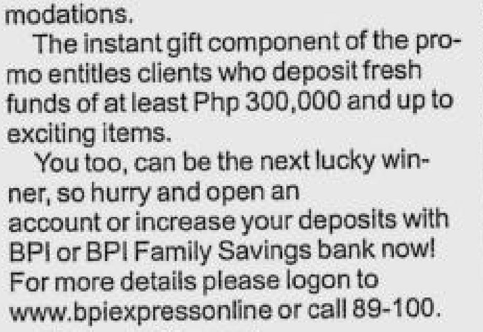
So what is Teresita planning to do with all her winnings- a total of 15 pieces of home appliances and furniture worth almost Php 500,000? "I'll give some to my nephew who's getting married and the rest will have to go to our house in Iloilo. But I think I need to build a bigger house to accommodate the prize package!"

The BPI A World of Compliments promotion was launched in February of 2007 to provide BPI depositors a chance to get complimentary rewards by simply increasing their deposit at BPI. The raffle component of the promotion showcased three exciting prizes- a COMPLETE HOME ENTERTAINMENT package, a P500,000 SHOPPING SPREE at exclusive Stores Specialists, Inc. stores at Greenbelt 4 and a TRIP FOR 4 TO THE ISLAND OF MALDIVES with $US 1,000 pocket money and free accommodations.

The instant gift component of the promo entitles clients who deposit fresh funds of at least Php 300,000 and up to exciting items.

You too, can be the next lucky winner, so hurry and open an account or increase your deposits with BPI or BPI Family Savings bank now! For more details please logon to www.bpiexpressonline or call 89-100.

* Promo conditions apply



BPI A World of Compliments first raffle draw winner, Ms. Teresita A. Calantas enjoying her home entertainment showcase.

BPI gives away a Complete Home Entertainment showcase to Ms. Teresita A. Calantas in BPI A World of Compliments promo. Present in the awarding celebration were : (from left) Sales Director of Mindanao and Panay areas, BPI VP Luis S. Montilla Jr., Raffle draw winner, Ms. Teresita A. Calantas, Preferred Banking Segment Head, BPI SVP Imelda C. Trillo , Mr. Joel Calantas, nephew of the winner and BPI SM Abner Gasendo.

Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER*, P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.*

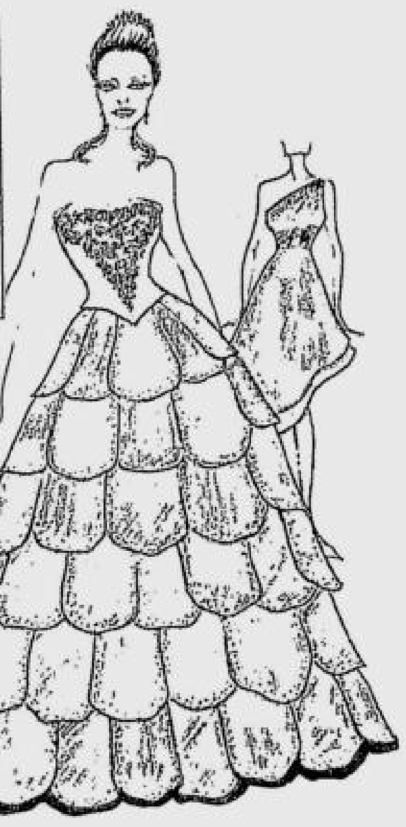
BALTAZAR DEBUT

Alexandra Baltazar is celebrating her 18th birthday Sept. 8 at the Philippine Stock Exchange Auditorium in Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

BAWAL DEBUT

Dongca Bawal, daughter of **Boy** and **Lee Bawal**, will celebrate her 18th birthday with a dinner-dance party Sept. 1 at the Quezon Ballroom, Makati Shangri-La Hotel.

Eric Pineda designed the debutante's gowns, a strapless corset in turquoise silk with floral beadwork and bouffant skirt and a Venus bodice in rose-red jersey and Thai silk with an asymmetric skirt in red and pink chiffon.



CELAJE-AMIN

Dr. **Joel C. Celaje IV**, son of **Joel** and **Dulia Celaje**, will wed Dr. **Maria Grandolla J. Amin**, daughter of **Manuel** (deceased) and **Barbara Amin**, Sept. 8 at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine, New Manila, Quezon City. The bride will wear a gown she designed with the help of stylist **Kenneth Chua**.

CABAHUG-SANGALANG

Allan Cabahug, son of **Conrado** and **Josephina Cabahug**, will wed **Leodielyn Sangalang**, daughter of **Leodigario** and **Henecia Sangalang**, Sept. 22 at New Monastery of Transfiguration, San José, Malaybalay City. Reception will follow at Loisa's Pavilion in Malaybalay City.

OCAMPO-ANG

José Ernesto Ocampo, son of **Ernesto** and **Thelma Ocampo**, wed **Stephanie Ang**, daughter of **Ang Bun Yee** and **Ang Sio King**, Oct. 29, 2006, at the Century Park Hotel Grand Ballroom.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

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2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Swatch for the fab four

THE NEW SWATCH campaign is about Swatch as a fashion statement (and personality statement). You can tell a lot about a guy from the Swatch he is wearing.

The question the Swatch guy is most often asked is, "Is that a Swatch?"

Lucky for the Swatch guy, the Swiss watch company's creative staff never stops coming out with new designs to keep guys interested (although they are not leaving out the women, not at all).

According to Virgie Ramos, CEO of Gift Gate, exclusive distributor of Swatch in the Philippines, four guys have been chosen recently to represent the world's coolest timepiece.

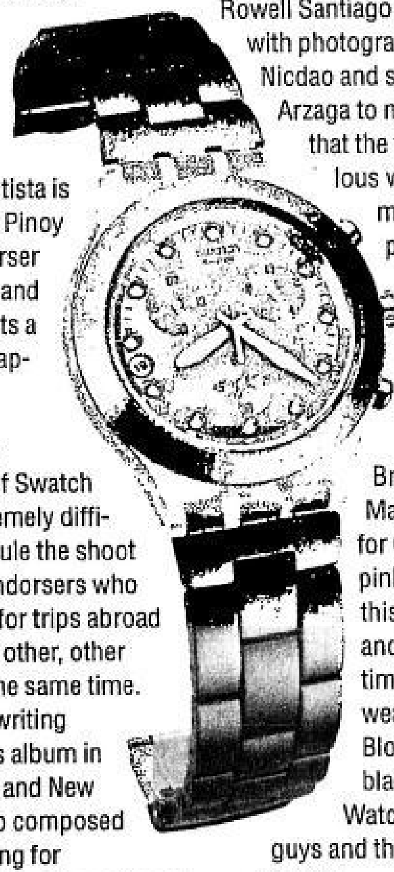
They were chosen for their great looks, good hearts, outstanding talent, creativity, discipline, fashion sense, love for music, how they get along with each other and other people, entertaining ways, sense of humor, and being trendsetters. Lastly, and this counts a great deal, these new endorsers has been approved by the Swatch HQ in Switzerland.

The guys

Billy Crawford is singer, songwriter, producer, actor and dancer, fashionista, *shoppingero* (especially in Tokyo) and sophisticated hip-hopper.

Matteo Guidicelli, a 12th grade honor student of Brent International School, is a multi-awarded karting champion. He plans to study acting, directing and cinematography in the United States.

Bruno Folster, an international professional model, came to the Philippines for a holiday last year and never left, except when he had modelling assignments abroad.



Singer Christian Bautista is the lone pure Pinoy Swatch endorser in the group, and for that he gets a full round of applause.

The shoot

The staff of Swatch found it extremely difficult to schedule the shoot of the new endorsers who kept leaving for trips abroad one after the other, other times all at the same time.

Billy was writing songs for his album in Los Angeles and New York. He also composed "Time," a song for Swatch which will be released next month. Matteo was in Chicago checking out his school. Bruno was in Tokyo for his ramp modelling assignments. And Christian was in Malaysia to launch a big advertising campaign for a multinational client.

When the date was finally set, Billy's TV crew had to come to the set for his interviews. Christian had to shorten his Fan's Day schedule. Bruno had to give up being Harry Potter and, Matteo had to skip a race for the Philippine Super Karting Series. Thank God, after back-to-back victories, he remains on top!

Swatch creative director Rowell Santiago worked with photographer Mark Nicdao and stylist Millet Arzaga to make sure that the four fabulous watches matched the personalities of the guys.

The watches

Gold for Bruno, blue for Matteo, silver for Christian and pink for Billy this time and and the next time in formal wear, the Full Blooded black/night. Watch out for the guys and their Swatch watches.

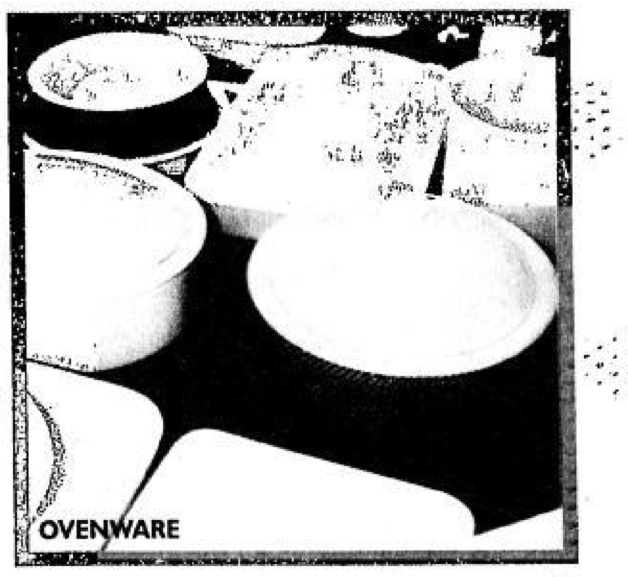
Ceramics, ceramics for less

MARKET! MARKET! AT THE BONIfacio Global City is bringing the factory outlet sale of Cardinal Ceramics at the mall's Activity Center. Cardinal Ceramics manufactures fine-quality ceramic, porcelain and stoneware dishes and décor.

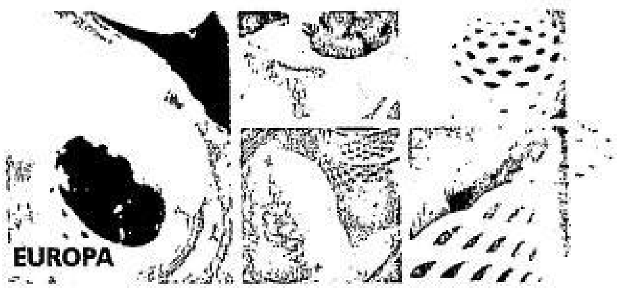
From Aug. 27 to 30, the exquisitely designed products are offered at affordable prices. Items such as hand-painted porcelain dinnerware, ovenware, serveware and giftware exported from abroad and used by fine-dining restaurants and hotels will be available during the four-day sale.

Shoppers may also take part in the various cooking demos and sampling activities lined up by JCG Marketing, Limketkai Manufacturing Corporation and Dutche Chocolates.

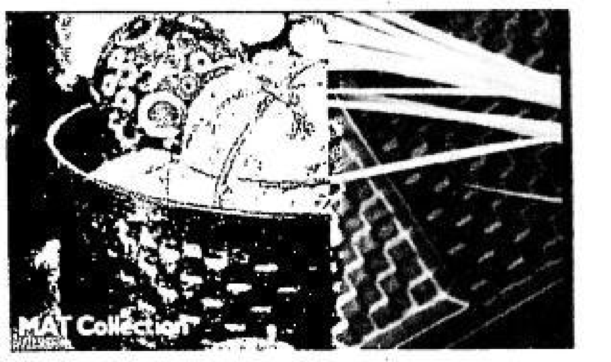
Market! Market! is located at Bonifacio Global City, Taguig. It can be reached by car, jeepney, FX or bus. A full-service transport terminal is available. For more details, contact the Concierge Hotline at 8867519 and the Cinemas hotline at 8867515.



OVENWARE



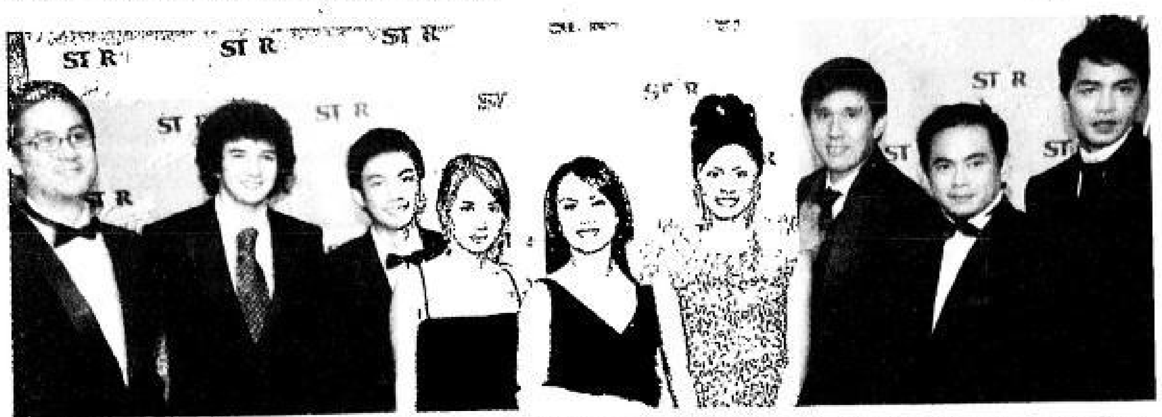
EUROPA



MAT Collection

FREE
christian bautista
matteo guidicelli
billy crawford
bruno folster
a special collectors' issue
swatch:
it's a guy thing

LG Mobile
GGreat
LG MOBILE KU250
3G FOR ALL Winner



PBB director Lauren Dyogi with ex-housemates Matt Evans, Mikee Lee, Chix Alcala, Nene Tamayo, Kim Chiu, Bob de la Cruz, Jayson Gainza and Zanjoe Marudo

ABS-CBN executives Deo Edrinal, Mariole Alberto, Olive Lamasan, Johnny Manahan, Malou Santos, Charo Santos-Concio and Cory Vidanes

I am now ready for my close-up

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

I've been asked by director Chito Roño to do a dramatic cameo in his next movie that would ask me to cry, which would make the movie a comedy

BEAUTIFUL ABS-CBN artists Anne Curtis and Sam Milby

BENCH Time couple Tessie and Ivan Yao

TOPNOTCH writer Cynthia Ongpin Valdes and historian Ambeth Ocampo

WONDERFUL painter Mia Herbosa and mom Elaine Herbosa

TOWN & Country editor Mia Borromeo and Patrick Reyno

FAMILY friends Justo and Tona Ortiz

WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE GLITZ and glamour of the entertainment world that makes for such fascinating news? Whether the story is about the latest star moving from one network to another or just humdrum show-biz gossip, entertainment news rules. Indeed, entertainment magazines have surpassed the combined circulation of lifestyle, sports and even the naughty lad mags.

I guess hearing juicy news about mesmerizing stars somehow spices up our ordinary everyday lives. Even in cyberspace, show-biz columnist **Dolly Carvajal** gets the most hits on the INQUIRER website. She would have been a shoo-in to win "Celebrity Duets," had she agreed when the GMA folks invited her.

Lately, I've been surrounded by all the show-biz singing talents of GMA as I try to desperately hone my voice to survive on "Celebrity Duets." We have weekly rehearsals with the band, led by musical director **Raul Mitra**, which are always more fun and less intense than the actual show itself on Saturdays.

This year has been just a series of firsts for me. Aside from my singing stint on "Celebrity Duets," being conferred the most unusual title of "Idol ng Breastfeeding" by the DOH, becoming the Svenson Hair Care girl and the spokesperson for Nivea Baby products, now comes a movie role!

Working on a movie production is totally different from TV. Exceptional director **Chito Roño** just asked me to play a cameo in his latest movie. Acting is much easier than singing, especially if the role you are playing is yourself.

True talent **Epi Quizon**, on the other hand, has such an expressive face that simply moving his eyebrows can make a dramatic difference. Direk Chito told me that I would have another scene that requires some dramatic crying, but I warned him that his suspense/horror film would turn into a comedy if that happened.

The only acting I have been doing lately is emoting in front of a digital camera. For the Svenson shots, top commercial photographer **Raymund Isaac** expertly captured my healthy redhead locks as he has been doing for more than two decades. He has photographed the countless hairstyles and hair colors that I have sported through the years.

My little cutie, **Athena**, has already started her modeling career as she is the spokesbaby for Nivea Baby products. The photo session with ace photographer **Alex van Hagen** was hilariously noisy, as everyone clowned around trying to make Athena laugh. Seeing the great photos after, I would say Alex deserves an award!

Star Magic Ball

Acting and singing require true talent, And talent was truly present in its most glittering style at the First Annual Star Magic Ball, held recently at the Hotel Intercontinental Ballroom.

In celebration of the 15th anniversary of the country's premier talent management and development center, a full-blown dinner show was held featuring the young artists of ABS-CBN Star Magic, headed by ultimate heartthrob **Piolo Pascual**.

My personal favorite among the Jersey Boys and the rest of the elegant tuxedo-clad artists is **Diether Ocampo**. Aside from all his talents and handsome features, he has a generous heart, having started the KIDS Foundation that aids lots of needy children.

Star Magic head **Johnny Manahan** turned over the artists' donation to Diether's KIDS Foundation that same evening.

The local show-biz world looked so fashionably perfect that night. Top fashion designers like **Rajo Laurel**, **Randy Ortiz**, **Ivar Aseron**, **Cary Santiago** and "Celebrity Duets'" singing designer **Frederick Peralta** were responsible for elevating the haute couture ranking of the event.

The Kapamilya network's superpowers were of course in full force, with ABS-CBN CEO **Gabby Lopez**, station manager **Charo Santos-Concio** and the rest of the executives present. Senior consultant **Freddie Garcia** was given an award for his vision and passion that created Star Magic.

I noticed that the bigger and more popular the stars were, the closer they were to the superpowers table. Top performer **Martin Nievera**, **Piolo Pascual** and fast-rising, sexy star **Wendy Valdez** were all at one point dining with the gods on Olympus.

Platinum gig

From the privileged show-biz scene to the privileged real life scene, among the events I was able to attend this month was the exclusive launch of Standard Chartered Bank's Platinum Cash Rewards Credit Card. Standard Chartered's top banking executives welcomed key Priority Banking customers, business partners and social personalities to the world of Platinum.

The Philippines' first international bank unveiled the Platinum Cash Rewards in a zesty cocktail party with flowing champagne at the elegant Tivoli Restaurant of the Mandarin Hotel. Standard Chartered CEO **Eugene Ellis**, country head of consumer banking **Simon Yuen** and GM of credit cards and loans **Supratim Pandey** jointly presented the exclusive card that gives cash back every time you spend. That for me, as a shopaholic, is a real treat!

Partnered with VISA International, the Platinum Cash Rewards also offers cash rebates on all dining and retail purchases in the millions of establishments all over the world that accept Visa. Log on to www.standardchartered.com to get into this exciting new credit card.

As special testament about their realm of benefits, Standard Chartered raffled off several prizes like Samsung TV's from AV Surfer, digital frames from Canon D-zone, iPod Nano's from Power Mac and two tickets to Bangkok, including accommodations from CNM Travel & Tours.

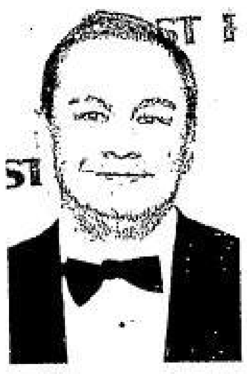
The grand prize of a trip to the US, courtesy of Philippine Airlines, was won by lucky launch attendee, Preview Magazine editor **Pauline Juan**.

Good read

Glitz and glamour can be exhilarating but sometimes it is the simpler events that touch the heart. My mother-in-law, **Cynthia Valdes**, just launched a book about her childhood memories of her grandfather, renowned art collector **Alfonso T. Ongpin**. Entitled "At My Grandfather's Knee," the book is available at the National Historical Institute or by e-mailing covaldes@zpdee.net. It's a good read for a Sunday afternoon, presumably when one is with the glitz and glamour of the show-biz pages.

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

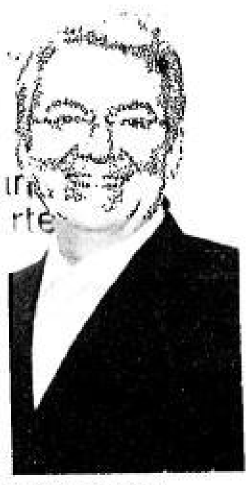
ABS-CBN CEO Gabby Lopez and power couple Korina Sanchez and Sen. Mar Roxas



ABS-CBN'S SVP Monchet Olives

BENCH'S head honcho Ben Chan between endorsers Kristine Hermosa and Rica Peralejo

HEARTTHROB Piolo Pascual and Charo Santos-Concio



VISA country manager Bob Joubert

RICA King, Nivea marketing director

NIVEA Baby guests Virgie Cheng, Kristine Tabata, Jing Lejano, Anna Villar, Bubbles Santos and Winchelle Nacague

LONG-TIME friends Linda Panlilio, Cynthia Valdes, Connie Pascal, Jimmy Laya and Lirio Mapa

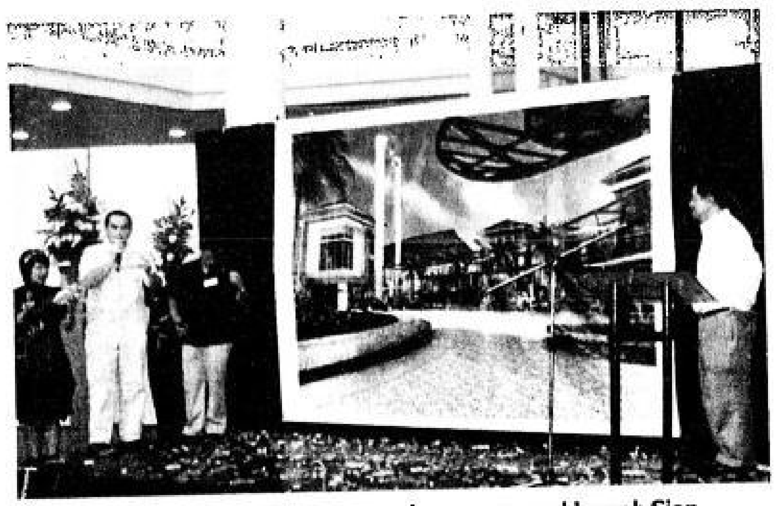
STANDARD Chartered Bank senior executives Ashish Jain, Simon Yuen, CEO Eugene Ellis, GM Supratim Pandey, Mike Aguilar and SP Ng

PMAP president Rissa Samson with Philip Abadicio, Rowena Cuyco and Carlo Sumayao

PRIORITY Banking clients Donnie Ramirez, Naty Pappas, Sandie Poblador, Rupert Jacinto, Manoling Poblador, Tina Jacinto and Glenn Gayle

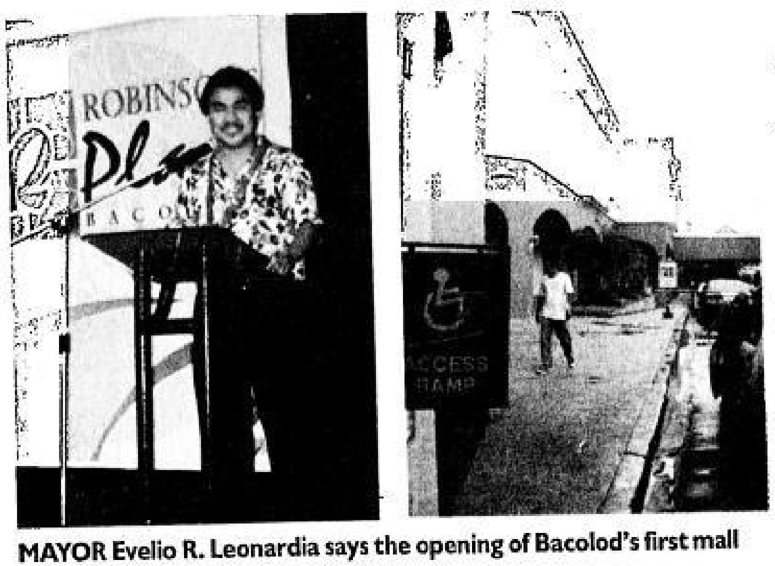
STANDARD Chartered Bank Credit Cards marketing team

SCB CEO Eugene Ellis, PAL AVP Babsy Aragon and lucky PAL ticket winner, Preview editor Pauline Juan



NILO Mapa, Robinsons Malls general manager, and Joseph Sian, group property manager for Robinsons Bacolod, unveil the artist's perspective of the annex.

ROBINSONS executives and tenants raise a toast to the expanded mall.



MAYOR Evelio R. Leonardia says the opening of Bacolod's first mall opens other doors for the city.

Bacolod celebrates a 10th 'birthday'

Mayor Leonardia says Robinsons led the way in turning the City of Smiles into a true urban center

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

A 10-YEAR-OLD IN BACOLOD City is having a growth spurt—by more than half its current size.

Robinsons Place Bacolod is expanding from 4.5 hectares by about 2.5 hectares more with the annex that is expected to open sometime next year.

But, with or without the projected expansion, the capital of Negros Occidental seemed to think it had every reason to celebrate a decade of malling at Robinsons.

Bacolodnons and local government executives enthusiastically joined mall officials during the recent 10th anniversary celebration of the city's first mall.

City Mayor Evelio R. Leonardia put the festive mood in perspective in his effusive keynote speech during the short program that formally marked Robinsons' 10th year in Bacolod and launched the new annex.

"The opening of Robinsons (in the city also) opened so many doors. It marked the birth of the mall age in Bacolod. Afterwards, many things happened," Leonardia said.

Robinsons became a symbol of investors' confidence, the mayor said. Thanking and congratulating the mall chain management at the same time, Leonardia said, "You saw what others did not see and the others then followed."

He said Robinsons led the way in turning the self-proclaimed City of Smiles into a true urban center. "When you came here, Bacolod was never the same again," Leonardia said as he proudly announced that the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry had named Bacolod as the most business-friendly city in the Visayas.

Real crowd-drawer

Nilo Mapa, Robinsons Malls general manager, while grateful for the mayor's kind words, also thanked the tenants. "Robinsons builds malls but tenants (draw the crowds)," he said.

Mapa who, with Joseph Sian, group property manager for Robinsons Bacolod, formally unveiled an artist's perspective of the expanded mall, stressed that the Robinsons group "does not just build malls but grows with the community."

When Robinsons opened its mall in the city 10 years ago to provide the locals a shopping-dining-entertainment haven, it brought to Bacolodnons already well-known names like its department store and supermarket, Handyman Do It Best, giant fastfood chains, and major retailers in fashion, accessories, etc.

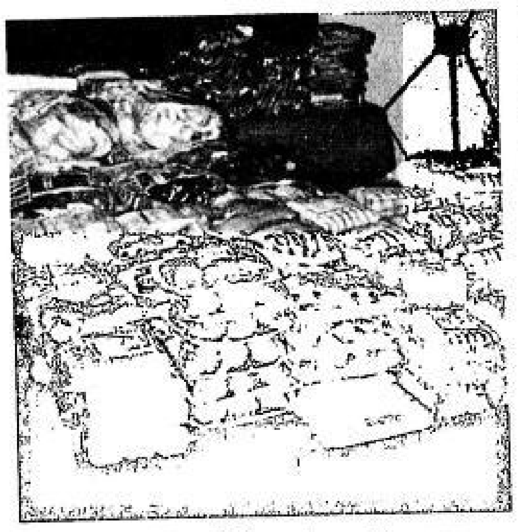
At the same time, it gave home-grown entrepreneurs a chance to showcase their products in a much bigger market, affording them greater exposure not just among the locals but also the many people visiting Bacolod.

Food establishments Pastry Shop of Bob's, El Rincon, Bacolod Lechon Hauz, Junie's and Cake House found profitable spots in the malls. Other local businesses that set up in the mall include the Big Ben Original Levi's Store, Chez Rose, Basix, Pelts X'Press, Nine Eleven and Galleon.

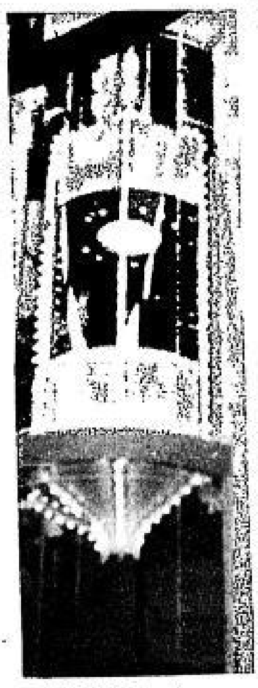
After 10 years, the tenants are still with the mall even as new establishments are opening.

Sian said customers would soon see at the mall National Bookstore, Geox & Alberto, Octagon, Spirits Lifestyle, Bongbong's Pasalubong Center and July Boutique, among others. The global toy chain Toys R Us and Robinsons Appliance Center have already opened.

Sian added, "Renovations have been undertaken to include a cozier food court area (and) a certified Wi-Fi (wireless fidelity) zone on level 3 (complementing) the newly refurbished Robinsons Movieworld cinemas."



BACOLOD'S first full-service mall opens a new market for the city's unique products, like its pastries and cookies.



SCENIC elevator draws even non-shopaholics.

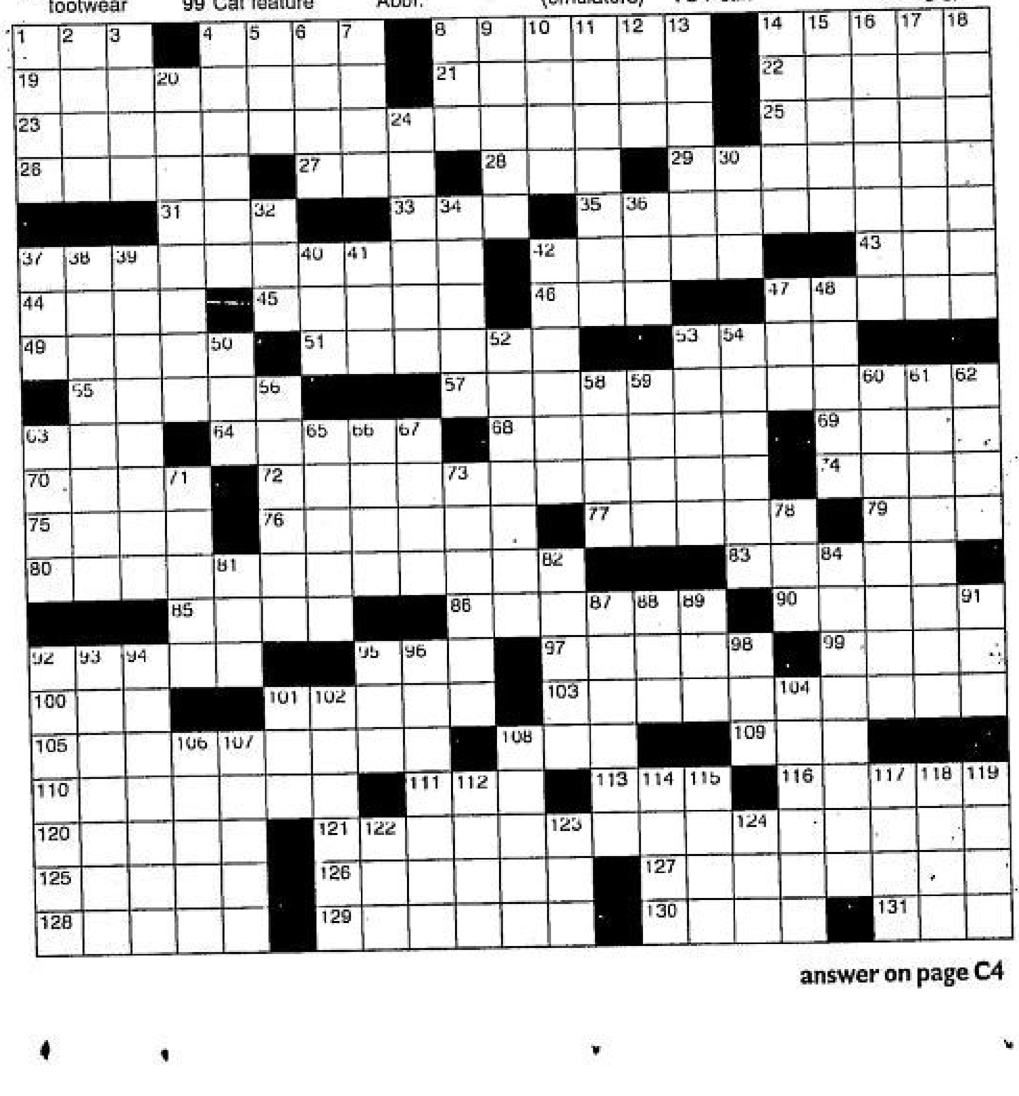
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

NATIONS

ACROSS
1 Adam's mate
4 Wharf
8 Harmony
14 Lively frolics
19 Able to read and write
21 Singer Cyndi
22 Sometimes-dangerous bacteria
23 Actor Dick being sedentary?
25 Wall painting
26 Lamenting song
27 Kerfuffle
28 Caffeinated drink
29 Rock-clinging mollusk
31 Morning drops
33 Akita sash
35 Clickable image of a watch?
37 Pay homage to the star of "Rio Lobo"?
42 Gnats, e.g.
43 Slash
44 Before long
45 Think tank offerings
46 Wood for bats
47 Skier's footwear
49 Cousin of a croc
51 Traitor Benedict
53 Scores 100% on
55 Isaac's mother
57 Big-billed bird goes with the flow?
63 Well-chosen
64 Locale of 48-Down
68 Stephen King novel
69 Broadway lyricist Gus
70 Novelist Leon
72 Not a single lunatic?
74 Location
75 Jay of TV
76 Have a gut feeling about
77 Ovine whine
79 Russian fighter jet
80 College or university?
83 Red bouquet
85 Radial, e.g.
86 Like rubbish
90 Green pasta sauce
92 — a beet
95 Toby drink
97 Trojan War epic
99 Cat feature
100 Not divided
101 Suffix with sect
103 Important prom?
105 Woman selling tropical fruit?
108 ROY G. — (color spectrum mnemonic)
109 "Dern tootin'!"
110 Of a one-celled organism
111 Atop, in odes
113 Sort
116 Large spoon
120 "It's a lie!"
121 They're in this puzzle's eight longest answers
125 Minotaur's home
126 Salad green
127 Nickname for 101-Down, with "the"
128 Squiggly shapes
129 Endured
130 JFK postings
131 Train depot: Abbr.

DOWN
1 "If all — fails ..."
2 Serum bottle
3 To be, in Arles
4 Stalking lion, e.g.
5 McKellen or Thorpe
6 Bluesy James
7 Tim of "WKRP in Cincinnati"
8 Styled after
9 Prickly plants
10 Darling
11 Sedatives
12 Accelerate, with "up"
13 Was a visionary
14 Big name in real estate
15 Nero's eyes
16 Casablanca locale
17 Make a blueprint for
18 Early films
20 Fertility clinic benefactor
24 Reagan special assistant Peggy
30 Wanna- — (emulators)
32 1914-18 conflict: Abbr.
34 Make drunk
36 Suffix with Turk
37 Old crone
38 Carousing
39 Scoring music
40 Oklahoma city
41 "— out!" (ump's cry)
42 Certain Italian
47 Sleep site
48 Honshu seaport
50 British rule in India
52 Finder
53 "Have — day!"
54 Roman emperor
56 More foggy
58 Cradle's cousin
59 — Sea (Asian lake)
60 Cheese type
61 Believing in a god
62 Impediment
63 — lang syne
65 British cash
66 Skill, in Italy
67 Gerund, e.g.
71 Kinda- —
73 Hand wear
78 Peak
81 "— for Evidence" (Sue Grafton novel)
82 "The Evil Dead" director Sam
84 Segregate
87 Polish, e.g.
88 G followers
89 NBAer Ming
91 Corrida call
92 Novel genre
93 Charms
94 Signifies
95 Give relief to
96 Make a bet
98 Unlubricated
101 Boxer Muhammad
102 Leah's sister
104 Rivers' mouths
106 Beau —
107 Reed instruments
108 Alla — (cut time, in music)
112 Cut, as film
114 Balcony box
115 Writer Vonnegut
117 Fades out
118 For fear that
119 "Como — usted?"
122 Once — while
123 Outlaw Kelly
124 Gallery-funding gp.



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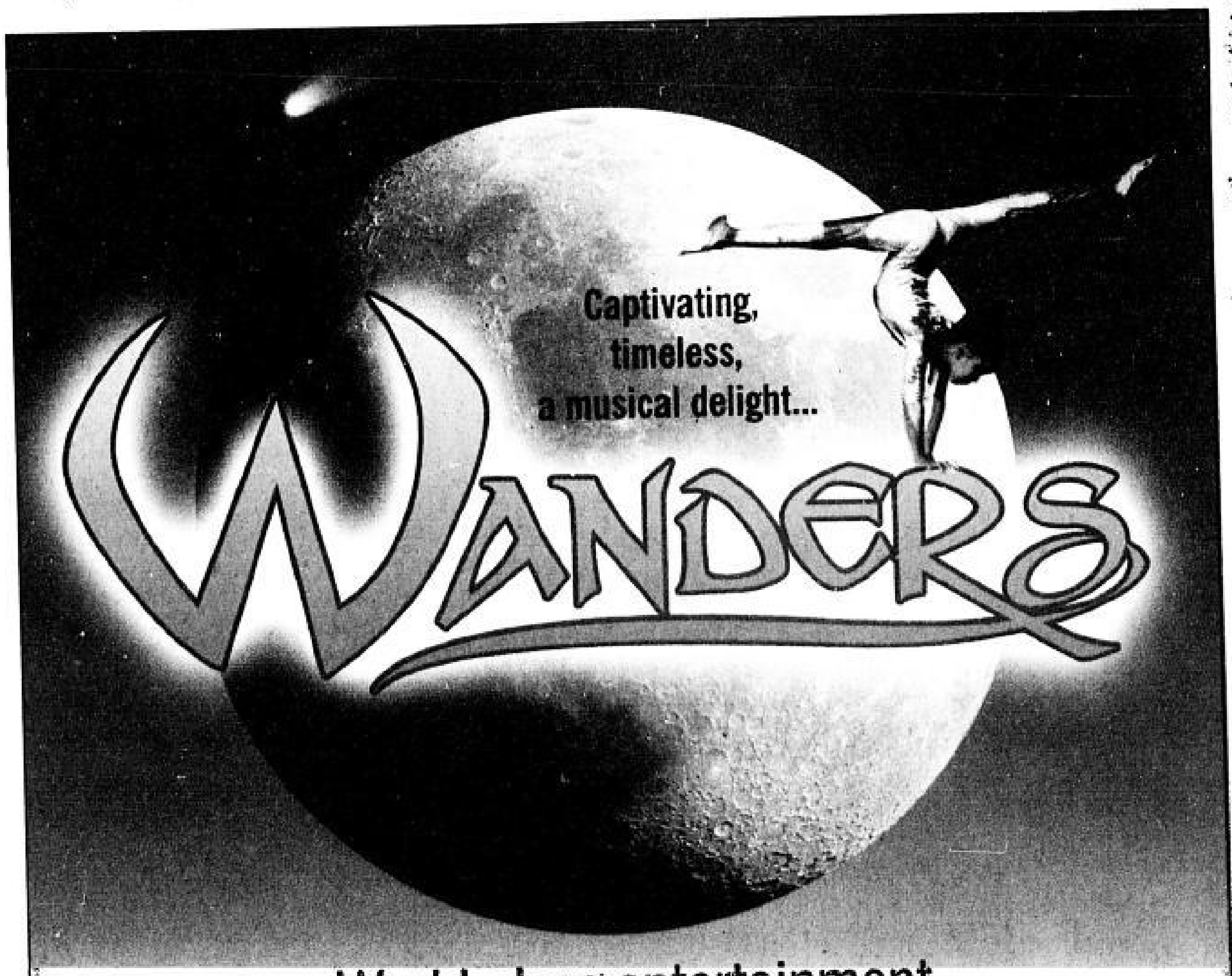
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PURELY PERSONAL
Josephine Darang

Shroud of Turin exhibit opens Sept. 8

A module-by-module tour is designed to shed light on the mystery surrounding the relic

THE SHROUD OF TURIN EXHIBIT WILL be brought from SM Pampanga to the SM Mall of Asia on Sept. 8, where it will stay until Dec. 9.

From Jan. 18-Feb. 3, 2008, it will be in SM City Davao and, on April 4-27, at SM City Cebu.

"The exhibit is a highly anticipated event for our community, because we are devotees of the Shroud," said Aurora Llanes, president of the Crusaders of the Philippines with chapters all over the country.

The Holy Face Congregation has a devotion to the Holy Face. Its official object of veneration is the Holy Face from the Shroud of Turin.

The Crusaders of the Holy Face was established in 1975 by Mother Theresa Vicente, who subsequently founded the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Face (under the Archdiocese of Laguna) and the Sisters of the Holy Face of Jesus (under the Archdiocese of Manila) in 1986.

Visitors will be taken on a module-by-module tour of the historical pilgrimage of the Shroud, including the Way of the Cross and the various theories based on art, science, technology, and the Bible, that aims to shed light on this historical, scientific and ecclesiastical phenomenon.

A Reflection Room will allow visitors to spend time in solace and prayer. A special area will be set aside for special events, like seminars and workshops by religious groups.

Call Shroud Exhibits International Inc. at 8952966 or 6100870; e-mail shroudexhibits@yahoo.com.

Wonder-worker

Devotees who flocked to the Santuario de Sta. Philomena at Holy Redeemer Parish in Malac, Masambong, Quezon City, for the Novena Masses (Aug. 2-10) and the feast day on Aug. 11 indicate a growing devotion to the saint, called "the wonder-worker" by the Church.

I attended for the first time all the Novena Masses and was astounded by the miracles that happened to me through the intercession of St. Philomena.

Astounding

Olive Carpio, my fellow lector at Ermita Church, has an astounding story. She first came to know about St. Philomena in 2002 when Norma de Castro gave her an application form for membership to the Living Rosary Association.

ST. PHILOMENA, virgin and martyr

Olive started praying to the saint that very day because her daughter needed P500 for school needs.

One evening, on her way home, as she waited for a ride, a taxi splashed water on her. As she stepped back, she saw a crumpled piece of paper. Something made her pick it up.

When she looked at it as she traveled home, it was a P500 bill.

Drawing people to Mary

Bishop Florentino Cinenze of Tarlac describes St. Philomena as the "patroness of the children of Mary who is drawing us closer to her Immaculate Heart."

Hidden for 1,700 years under the catacombs of St. Priscilla in Rome, the remains of the saint were unearthed by excavators in 1802. St. Philomena, virgin-martyr, was shot with an arrow by executioners of Diocletian.

Now that knowledge of her is not hidden anymore, Bishop Cinenze said the saint had become our anchor in this dark age of despair.

During the Novena Mass, Infanta Bishop Rolando Tria Tirona said we should be chaste like St. Philomena. He said "to be chaste, one has to focus on the Lord."

Bishop Filomeno Bactol of Naval, Leyte, declared he was a member of the Living Rosary Association that gave members a particular Mystery to pray. When he was baptized, the saints listed were Filomeno and Iluminado. His mother chose Filomeno.

Bishop Antonietto Cabajog of Surigao continues the devotion to St. Philomena that his ancestors began. His grandmother passed on the tradition to the bishop's mother.

Cubao Bishop Honesto Ongtioco, who celebrated the fiesta Mass on Aug. 11, encouraged everyone to pray to St. Philomena.

The Holy Redeemer Parish holds a novena to St. Philomena at 6 p.m. every Friday. Those who want *estampitas* can write me c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Ave., Makati City.

Exhibit

Inspirational anthologies, Bibles and Bible study guides, prayer books, daily reflections, religious audio books, Christian music, magazines and periodicals, and other religious publications will be among the highlights of the 28th Manila International Book Fair (MIBF) Aug. 29-Sept. 2 at World Trade Center, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. corner Roxas Blvd. For details, call 8900661 or 8960682, or e-mail bookfair@primetradeasia.com

Peñafrancia exhibit

Bicolano artist Pancho Piano will hold an exhibit of paintings of Our Lady of Peñafrancia and Bicol traditions Sept. 3, at Basilica de Peñafrancia in Naga, as a highlight of the fiesta. The fluvial procession is on Sept. 15.

The exhibit will be brought Oct. 8 to New York's Chelsea Art Museum upon the invitation of Sorrel Publishing Company. Piano will be featured in one of their books.

Help needed

The contemplative nuns of Poor Clare Monastery in Cabid-an, Sorsogon City, need help in repairing their convent which was devastated by typhoons "Milenyo" and "Reming."

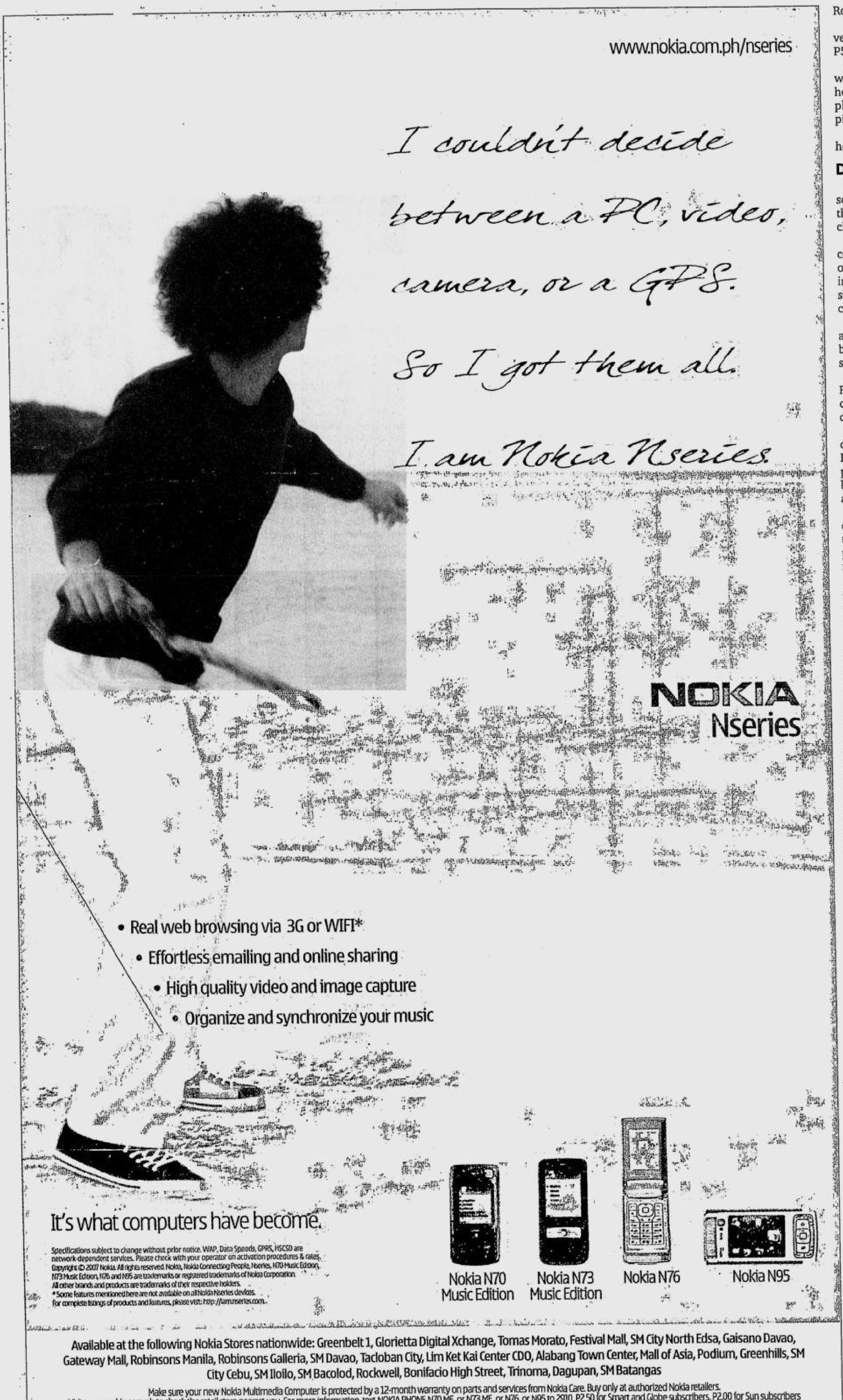
Abbess Mother Elizabeth of Peñafrancia, OSC, said restoration might cost P4.5 million. Can Bicolanos and my readers help? Text 0910-5251317 or call (056)4219380.

The nuns spend their time praying for people's needs. Their charism is to pray constantly for the Diocese of Sorsogon now headed by Most Rev. Arturo Bastes, SVD.

Davao province welcomes new bishop Most Rev. Julius Tonel. He was ordained bishop Aug. 20. He will serve the diocese of Ipil.

Confirmation

Readers Rey and Rhoda Arciaga were happy when their son Rodel received recently the Sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, East Rembo, Makati. Witnessing the beautiful occasion were Rodel's sister Razcel and brother Brian.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* Some features mentioned here are not available on all Nokia Nseries devices.
For complete listings of products and features, please visit: http://iamnseries.com.

Nokia N70 Music Edition
Nokia N73 Music Edition
Nokia N76
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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

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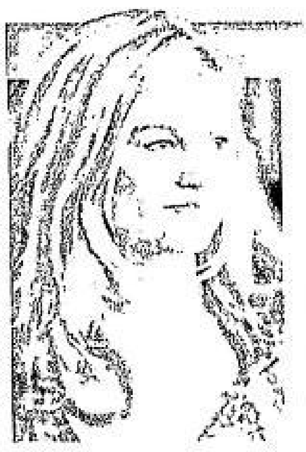
THE PINOY AS H'WOOD FILMMAKER Director Yam Laranas is in the midst of filming "The Echo," the Hollywood remake of his movie, "Sigaw." He is glad nobody calls him "Direk" on the Toronto set. *Only in Hollywood page G4*



INSIDE

- ☐ **Suzi Entrata-Abrera interviews Julia Stiles** Exclusive /G1
- ☐ **Scarlett Johansson on her success** Take 5 /F4
- ☐ **Why 'A Love Story' deserves its success** Review /G6
- ☐ **Carmina Villaroel gets her not-so-simple birthday wish** Rushes /G6

IZA CALZADO

Iza goes F4

After her H'wood debut, this Pinay is starring with Taiwan's Ken Zhu in a movie set in Batanes

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

FOLLOWING HER HOLLYWOOD DEBUT in "The Echo," Filipino actress Iza Calzado is set to co-star with Taiwan's Ken Zhu, formerly of the boy band F4, in a movie to be shot in Batanes.

The news was confirmed by the film's producer, Arleen Cuevas and co-directors Adolf Alix and Dave Hukom of Ignite Media.

Adolf says Iza is "perfect" for the role—a Manila sales girl who relocates to Batanes and falls in love with an Ivatan man and a stranded fisherman from Taiwan.

The Taiwanese fisherman is to be played by Ken, while the role of the Ivatan is yet to be cast.

Adolf recalls that Judy Ann Santos was originally tapped for the movie, tentatively titled "Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan."

"She loved the script," Dave recounts. "But there were scheduling problems."

"Judy Ann recommended Iza, a good friend and co-star in the hit movie 'Ouija,'" Adolf says.

KEN ZHU

Iza immediately expressed interest in the script, written by Arah Jell Badayos, who wrote and co-directed "Mudraks" for last year's Cinemalaya.

Iza, however, bagged a major role in "The Echo," the Hollywood version of Yam Laranas' "Sigaw."

Thrilled

That was when they thought of Iza's fellow GMA 7 talent Jennylyn Mercado for the part. But Iza's schedule eased up a bit and "she eventually signed up for our project," Dave says.

Lito Calzado, Iza's father, confirms that his daughter will start working on the Batanes movie in October.

Adolf says that from the start Iza has been excited over the script and the prospect of going to Batanes.

"She wants to get a feel of the place before the shoot. From Toronto (where she is shooting "The Echo"), she will proceed to Batanes."

Ken Zhu, one of the stars of the popular youth drama "Meteor Garden" (currently aired by GMA 7), was just as thrilled over the script, relates producer Arleen.

"I got in touch with him through a friend of a friend who's a Hong Kong producer," she says.

After sending the script's first draft to Ken's agent, Arleen was surprised to get an e-mail from Ken.

"He said that he had read the script himself," she notes.

IZA/ F2

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www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY • THX
1:30 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30

2 A LOVE STORY
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

3 RUSH HOUR 3
1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00

4 HAIRSPRAY
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

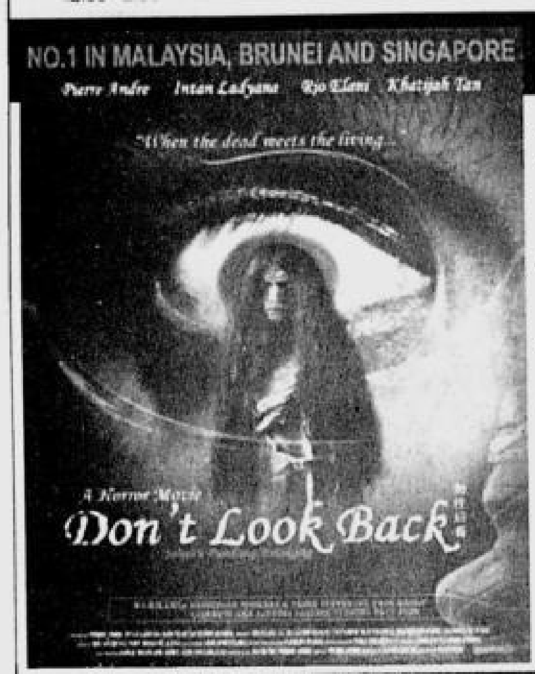
6 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

7 RISE
1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

8 indieSine: INDIO NACIONAL
1:45 3:50 5:55 8:00

9 SURF'S UP
1:30 3:35 5:40 7:45 9:50

10 SIGNOS
1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00



NO.1 IN MALAYSIA, BRUNEI AND SINGAPORE
Pierre Andre Intan Ladyana Rijo Eleni Khatijah Tan
"When the dead meets the living...
A Horror Movie
Don't Look Back

Don't Look Back

This horrifying and mysterious story is about a young man named Darma (Pierre Andre) who is trying to figure out the cause of his fiance named Rose's (Intan Ladyana) death. Rose was found dead without any reason. Darma together with Rose's twin sister named Sen (also played by Intan Ladyana) tried to find the mystery behind Rose's death.

They began their investigation by going to Rose's house where Darma found a bottle which he brought home. Darma and Sen suspected something weird happened behind Rose's death. Their suspicion became stronger as they found some evidences including Rose's digital camera.

Since then Darma lived a disturbing life. A diverse of weird and horrifying events haunted him. At Kampung, as Darma was about to find the cause of Rose's death, he and Sen were shocked by one thing that was really hard to accept. What is that thing and could Darma afford to find a way out of this thing that haunts him everyday? Everything will be answered by watching this film. To all of you there, whatever happen, don't you dare LOOK BACK because when dead men meet life, anything can happen!

showing at all

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
this August 29

ERMITA

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY 12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

2 SURF'S UP 12:00 2:00 4:00
RISE 6:00 8:00 10:00

3 HAIRSPRAY
12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 10:00

4 SIGNOS
12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 10:00

5 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

6 A LOVE STORY
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

7 RUSH HOUR 3
12:15 2:15 4:15 6:15 8:15 10:00

METRO EAST

1 HAIRSPRAY
1:00 3:40 6:20 9:00

2 A LOVE STORY
10:35 1:05 3:45 6:25 9:05

3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
12:10 2:25 4:40 6:55 9:10

4 SURF'S UP
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

5 RISE
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

6 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
1:00 3:40 6:20 9.00

7 RUSH HOUR 3
11:30 1:55 4:20 6:45 9:10

8 SIGNOS
12:10 2:25 4:40 6:55 9:10

NOVALICHES

1 A LOVE STORY
2 SIGNOS
3 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
6 RISE

PIONEER

Ticket Price P100 / P110 687-5378

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
12:10 2:15 4:20 6:25 8:30

2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
1:15 3:45 6:15 8:40

3 A LOVE STORY
1:15 3:45 6:15 8:40

4 HAIRSPRAY
1:15 3:45 6:15 8:40

STA. ROSA

Ticket Price P80 / P90 (049) 837-0907

1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 A LOVE STORY

LIPA

Ticket Price (043) 757-3664 P90 (043) 312-5870

1 OSS 117
2 A LOVE STORY
3 LICENSE to WED
4 THREE

DASMARIÑAS

Ticket Price P80 / P90 (046) 416-4332

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY

IMUS

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1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 A LOVE STORY

ANGELES

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1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STROY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 RUSH HOUR 3

TARLAC

1 A LOVE STORY
2 THE SIMPSONS
3 LICENSE to WED

STARMILLS

P80 / P90 (045) 875-1927

1 THREE
2 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 SURF'S UP
6 RUSH HOUR 3

BACOLOD

Ticket Price P70 (034) 441-0459

1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 SURF'S UP
5 RUSH HOUR 3
6 RESERVE

ILOILO

Ticket Price P70.50 / P80.50 (033) 336-8070

1 THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 RUSH HOUR 3
5 BLIND DATING
6 RISE

ACTIVITIES

AUGUST 26 (11:00AM) –
- "SURF'S UP" Mall Show
- Dance Number
- Meet & Greet / Photo Op with Cody
- Surfing Clinic by Stonemoney
- Games and Raffle · Robinsons Bacolod Mall Activity Area

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"Improbably Hilarious"
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- The New York Times

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- The Hollywood Reporter

Blades of Glory is a comedic farce that takes on the world of figure skating. The film stars Will Ferrel (*Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*) as Chazz Michaels and Jon Heder (*Benchwarmers*) as Jimmy MacElroy, two competitive figure skaters who, banned from competing in the men's single competition a few years back, are convinced to compete in the pairs skating category - with each other!

Watch how Chazz and Jimmy pull it off and win the coveted championship exclusively at your favorite SM Cinemas nationwide.

MTRCB Rating: PG-13

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IMAX

HARRY POTTER 5 4:00PM 8:30PM
T-REX 2:30PM 7:00PM
ANT BULLY 12:30PM

1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 HAIRSPRAY
4 SURF'S UP
5 GANDHI, MY FATHER
6 CARTOON NETWORK/ BLADES OF GLORY

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CINEMA 1
EVAN ALMIGHTY

CINEMA 2
BOURNE ULTIMATUM

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SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 HAIRSPRAY
4 CARTOON NETWORK/ A LOVE STORY
5 A LOVE STORY
6 RUSH HOUR 3
7 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
8 SIGNOS
9 RISE
10 A LOVE STORY
11 OUIJA
12 SURF'S UP

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901

1 BLADES OF GLORY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 A LOVE STORY
5 HAIRSPRAY
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY
7 RATATOUILLE
8 OUIJA
9 RISE
10 A LOVE STORY
11 SIGNOS
12 CARTOON NETWORK/ A LOVE STORY

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749

1 SIGNOS
2 SURF'S UP
3 BLADES OF GLORY
4 OUIJA
5 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
6 HAIRSPARY
7 EVAN ALMIGHTY
8 A LOVE STORY
9 RUSH HOUR 3
10 RISE
11 RATATOUILLE
12 CARTOON NETWORK

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416

1 RESERVED
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 HAIRSPRAY
5 RESERVED
6 RISE
7 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
8 CARTOON NETWORK/ SURF'S UP
9 HAIRSPRAY
10 BLADES OF GLORY

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 CARTOON NETWORK/ A LOVE STORY
5 HAIRSPRAY
6 A LOVE STORY

SM SOUTHMALL 806-6888

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 A LOVE STORY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
5 SIGNOS
6 BLADES OF GLORY
7 SURF'S UP
8 HAIRSPRAY
9 CARTOON NETWORK/ OIUJA

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055

1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 CARTOON NETWORK/ XENOA
4 A LOVE STORY
5 RISE
6 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
7 HAIRSPRAY
8 BLADES OF GLORY
9 SIGNOS
10 OUIJA
11 THREE
12 SIGNOS

SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4323201-04

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 A LOVE STORY
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917

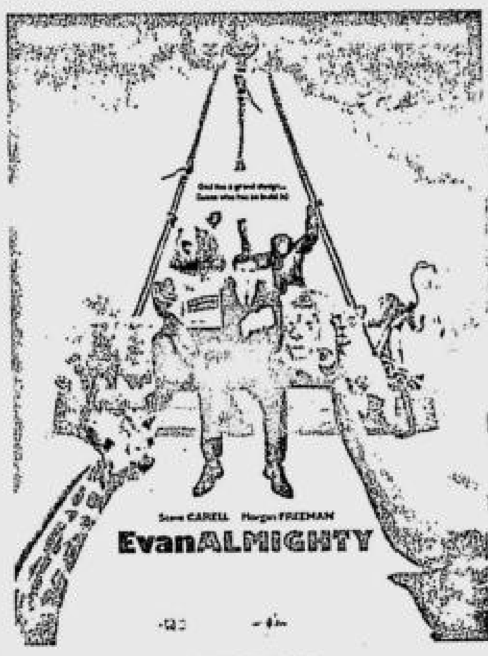
1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 A LOVE STORY
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 A LOVE STORY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 BOURNE ULTIMATUM

movietime

Fresh New Movie



From the directors of "Bruce Almighty" comes another story of unexpected apparation.

Former newscaster Evan Baxter (Steve Carell), who is now elected Congressman, leaves Buffalo behind and shepherds his family to suburban Northern Virginia. There, his life turns upside down when God (Morgan Freeman) appears and commands him to build an ark because flood is coming. Evan shuns it at first, but eventually, his faith leads people into a remarkable realization.

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SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868

1 SIGNOS
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY
5 RUSH HOUR 3
6 RISE
7 OUIJA
8 A LOVE STORY

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45.

1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 RUSH HOUR 3
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 SURF'S UP
5 A LOVE STORY
6 CARTOONNETWORK

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 RUSH HOUR 3

LUZON

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 A LOVE STORY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 LICENSE TO WED

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)9637681-85

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 A LOVE STORY
4 CARTOON NETWORK
5 OUIJA
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY

SM CIY LIPA (043) 784-0187

1 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN
2 WHITE NOISE
3 A LOVE STORY
4 LICENSE TO WED

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80

1 A LOVE STORY
2 LICENSE TO WED
3 BLADES OF GLORY
4 SURF'S UP

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39

1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 A LOVE STORY
3 LICENSE TO WED
4 EVAN ALMIGHTY

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3160

1 EVAN ALMIGHTY
2 A LOVE STORY
3 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
4 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5349811

1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 EVAN ALMIGHTY
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 A LOVE STORY

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998

1 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
2 LICENSE TO WED
3 A LOVE STORY
4 SURF'S UP/ CARTOON NETWORK
5 EVAN ALMIGHTY
6 RUSH HOUR 3

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 LICENSE TO WED
3 A LOVE STORY
4 PLANET TERROR

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422

1 RISE
2 RESERVED
3 RUSH HOUR 3
4 A LOVE STORY
5 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
6 EVAN ALMIGHTY
7 RESERVED
8 BLIND DATING

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876

1 RUSH HOUR 3
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 LICENSE TO WED
5 CARTOON NETWORK
6 THREE
7 A LOVE STORY
8 SURF'S UP/ BLADES OG GLORY

SM CITY BACOLOD (034) 708 1010

1 A LOVE STORY
2 BOURNE ULTIMATUM
3 EVAN ALMIGHTY
4 RUSH HOUR 3

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*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

FEEDBACK

Understanding Ruffa's choice

From Arlene Rafiq (arlene@lenscape.com), 92/008 Moo 12, Muang Ake 3 Thailand:

I can understand Ruffa Gutierrez's predicament. She is not just thinking about herself—she has children. She's not perfect like everyone of us. If Ruffa has decided to reconcile with husband Yilmaz Bektas, that's fine. But let her not make the mistake of living outside her own country. At least in the Philippines, she will be protected by friends and family and Yilmaz will think thrice before hitting her again. Yilmaz should undergo psychiatric help to prevent him from repeating the same act. He is obviously suffering from chemical imbalance.

Scarlett Johansson

From page F4

Unlike some of your contemporaries, you're not a famous partier and haven't been arrested for drunk driving. How do you stay on track?

I don't think necessarily that there's trouble looming around the corner for everyone involved in this industry. I have a really wonderful family that's very supportive. Luckily I never really struggled with any kind of, I don't know, image problems or addictions. You know, I think it's not just people in Hollywood. It's part of growing up in the world today where everything is so available and fast-paced.

It's hard I think for a lot of youths to avoid these pitfalls, whether it's drugs or alcohol. I'm just fortunate enough to never have had that inclination. I guess I attribute that to my parents and friends and the way I was raised.

AP

Iza goes F4

From page F1

Ken also acted as consultant, giving tips on the cultural practices in Taiwan, to make the script's flashback scenes more accurate.

"Sa Dulo" is Adolf's second film to be shot in Batanes, after Cinemalaya's "Kadin" this year.

"After I did an ocular for 'Kadin,' I told Dave that Ignite should do a love story set in Batanes," Adolf says. "For 'Kadin,' we used an HD camera, but for this new movie, we will be using a 35mm film camera. Batanes should really be captured on film."

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CINEMA 2	RUSH HOUR 3 12:15 , 2:25 , 4:35 6:45 , 9:00	PG-13	

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CINEMA 3	HAIRSPRAY 11:10 , 2:00 , 4:50 7:40 , 10:30	GP
CINEMA 4	BOURNE ULTIMATUM 11:00 , 1:45 , 4:30 7:15 , 10:00	PG-13
CINEMA 5	EVAN ALMIGHTY 10:35 , 12:50 , 3:05 5:20 , 7:35 , 9:50	PG-13

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM	August 24 & 25 , 2007	Ogie Alcasid & Regine Velasquez	8:00 PM
	September 15 , 2007	Rico J. w/ Ruffa Mae	8:00 PM
TEATRINO PROMENADE GREENHILLS	Aug. 24, 31, Sept. 7, 21, 28 ,2007	Drag - Ons	10:00 PM
	Aug. 30, Sept. 5,12,19,26 ,2007	Cerrudo Classico	8:00 PM

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

SHANG CINEPLEX

① EVAN ALMIGHTY
MTRCB GP 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

② A LOVE STORY
MTRCB PG-13 10:50, 1:30 4:10, 6:50, 9:30

③ BOURNE ULTIMATUM
MTRCB PG-13
1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40

④ HAIRSPRAY
MTRCB GP 11:20, 2:00 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

PREMIERE THEATRE
SURF'S UP (GP) 11:30, 1:30, 3:30 / RUSH HOUR 3 (PG-13) 5:30, 7:35, 9:40

Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice

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Shangri-La Plaza

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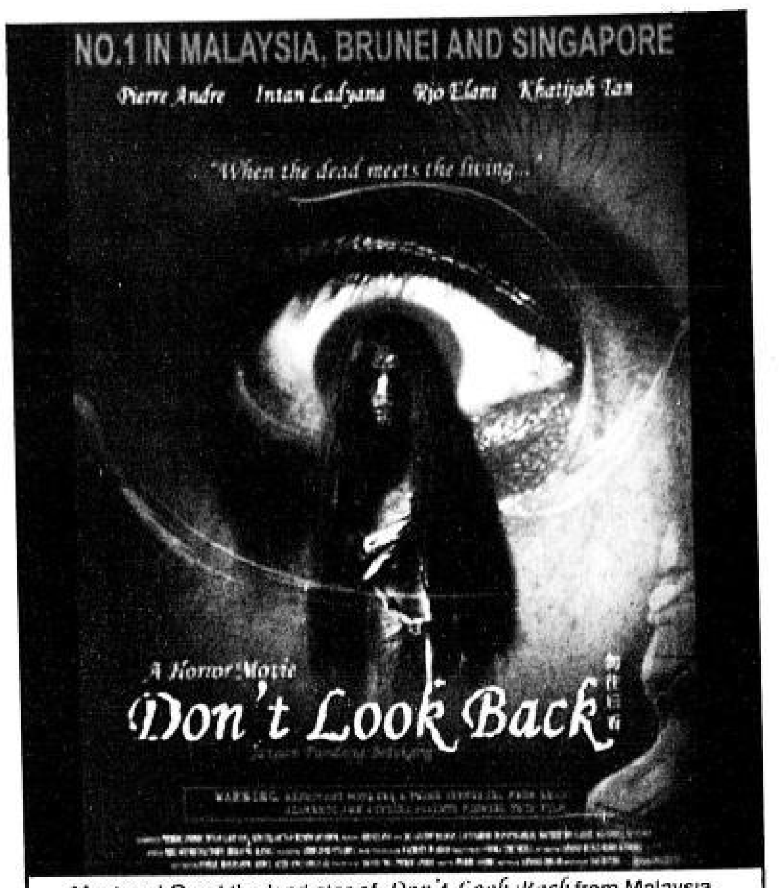
Pierre Andre Intan Ladyana Rjo Elani Khatijah Tan
"When the dead meets the living..."
A Horror Movie
Don't Look Back

Meet and Greet the lead star of *Don't Look Back* from Malaysia
MR. PIERRE ANDRE
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Robinsons Movieworld • 6:00PM
GALLERIA Cinema Lobby
*Premiere Screening to follow after the presscon

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"SURF'S UP is a rare family comedy with something to offer kids and adults alike."
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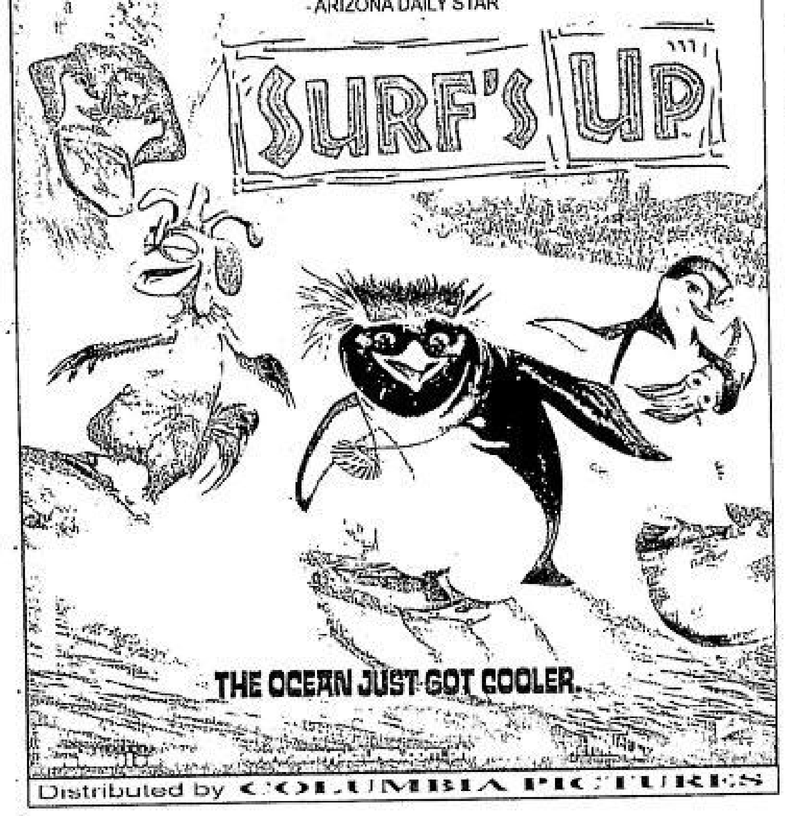
SURF'S UP
THE OCEAN JUST GOT COOLER.

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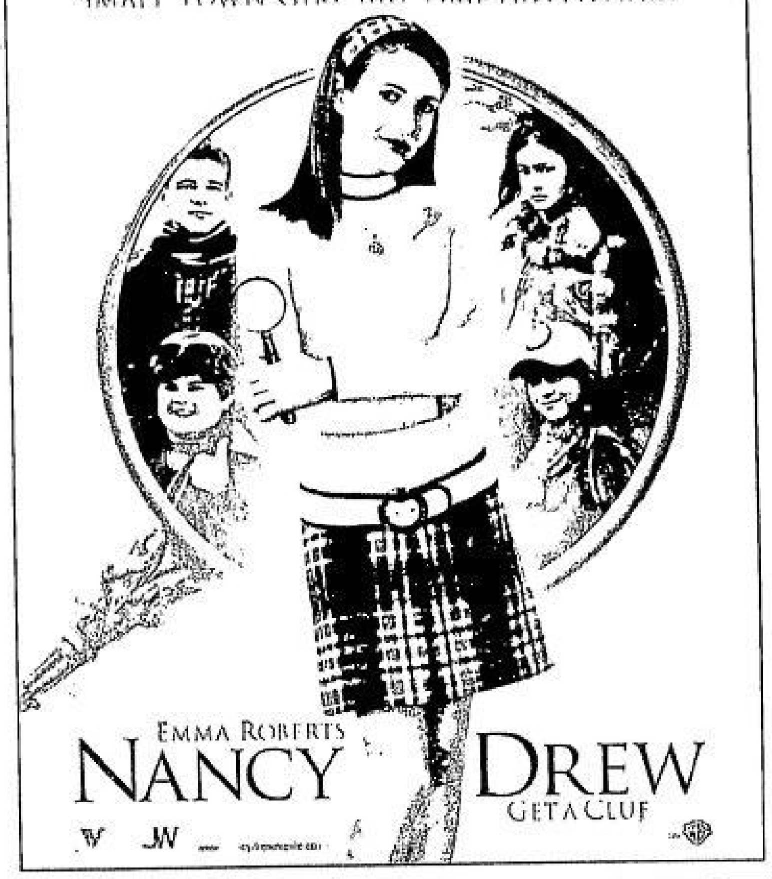
FROM BRETT RATNER
THE DIRECTOR OF
"X-MEN 3: THE LAST STAND"
JACKIE CHAN
CHRIS TUCKER
RUSH HOUR 3

OPENS SEPTEMBER 5

MTRCB G ALL AGES ADMITTED


SMALL TOWN GIRL BIG TIME ADVENTURE.
EMMA ROBERTS
NANCY DREW
GET A CLUE

AT THE CINEMAS

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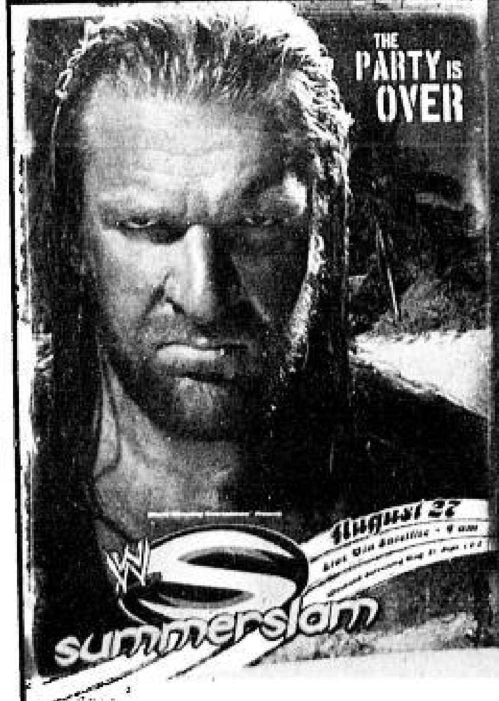

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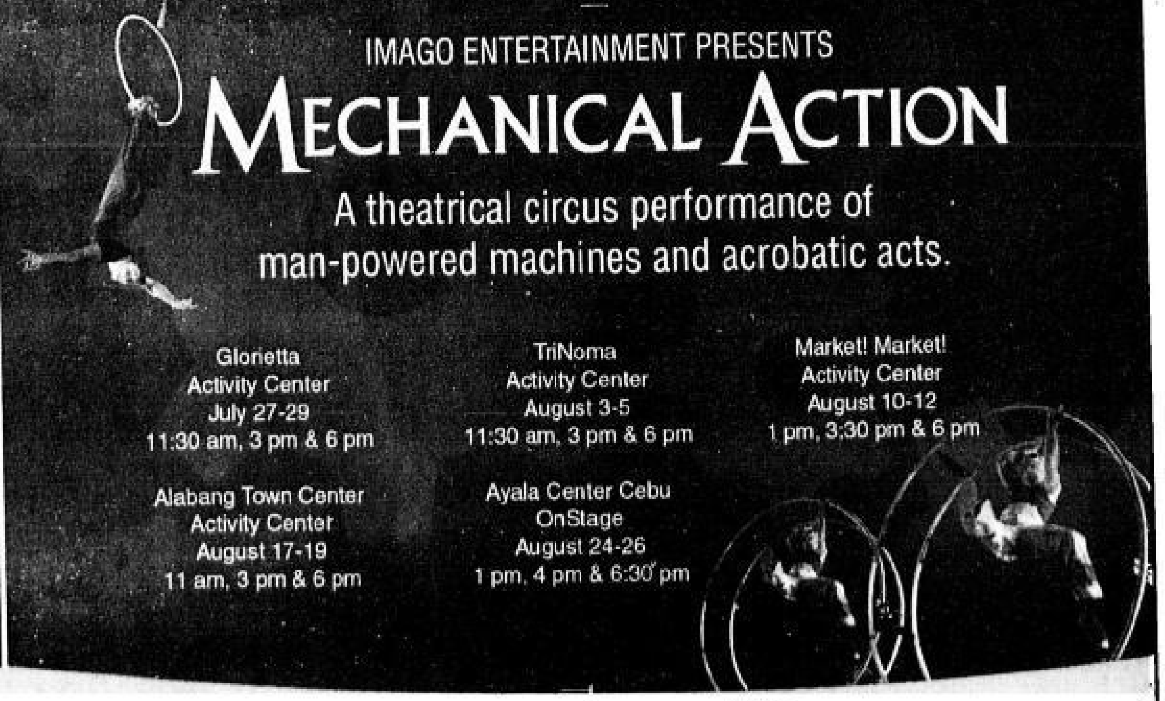

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On being young and successful in H'wood

Scarlett Johansson, 22, has been directed by the very best

TAKE FIVE

LOS ANGELES—LIFE IS GOOD FOR Scarlett Johansson. The actress and aspiring singer just recorded her debut album and has a calendar full of film projects that will keep her busy for months.

At just 22, Johansson has already taken direction from Robert Redford, Brian DePalma, Christopher Nolan and Woody Allen, with whom she's currently working for the third time. She's shared the screen with John Travolta, Bill Murray, Steve Buscemi and Hilary Swank in roles that have seen her as an outcast, action star and little girl lost.

In her latest project, "The Nanny Diaries," Johansson stars opposite Oscar nominees Laura Linney and Paul Giamatti. Set in her hometown of New York City, the film tells the story of a 21-year-old college grad who learns what money can and can't buy when she takes a job as a live-in nanny for a super-wealthy couple and their son.

Speaking by phone from Barcelona, where she's shooting Allen's latest film, Johansson talked with The Associated Press about music, her movie career and how she avoids the pitfalls and paparazzi that plague her Hollywood contemporaries.

Are you Woody Allen's new muse?

We both kind of think that term is so bizarre. You know, it's not like I come bring him inspiration when he's got writer's block at three in the morning. We like to work together. It's an easy working relationship and a really nice friendship, so it works out. But I don't know if it goes much further than that.

What attracted you to "The Nanny Diaries"?

Shari (Springer Berman) and Bob (Pulcini) were attached to it ... had written the script, and I was a big fan of "American Splendor." So I met with them ... and we just got along incredibly well. The three of us spent hours talking about everything, and we have sort of similar upbringings, and we're all from New York. That's what attracted me to the project to begin with.

Of course, (also) just the opportunity to play somebody who was a girl who I very easily could have been friends with or known. I felt like I'd never really had the opportunity to play someone that I could so easily relate to, someone my own age. I thought it was clever and funny.

How did you like working in your hometown?

New York is such a great city to shoot in. It's been a long time since I've been able to shoot at home. It's wonderful to be able to just see your friends after work, to be able to go home and sleep in your own bed.

What about this album you're releasing? It's all Tom Waits covers?

I've always been a huge fan of Tom Waits and I had this kind of golden opportunity to make an album however I wanted and it's kind of a dream chance. Originally I thought that I would do an album of standards and I wanted to include a Tom Waits song. And I don't know, I thought maybe everybody does standards, and so, I see Tom Waits as being kind of a composer of modern standards and so it seemed appropriate that I could interpret his songs.

Obviously, it's not an album where I'm trying to sound like him. It would be impossible. He writes such beautiful songs and incredible melodies and they're so cinematic and kind of open-ended so I felt like it would be something that I could be inspired by.

Has music always been an interest of yours?

I actually started acting because I wanted to be in musicals when I was a little girl. That's where my dream career was going to be when I was 8 years old, like the young Cosette in "Les Miserables." Then I started making films and I never ended up doing musical theater.

Of course, by the time I turned 13, I kind of buried that part of myself. You know, it's always been there. I've always loved to sing and listened to all kinds of music.

SCARLETT/ F2

JOHANSSON on the set of a Woody Allen movie in Barcelona AFP

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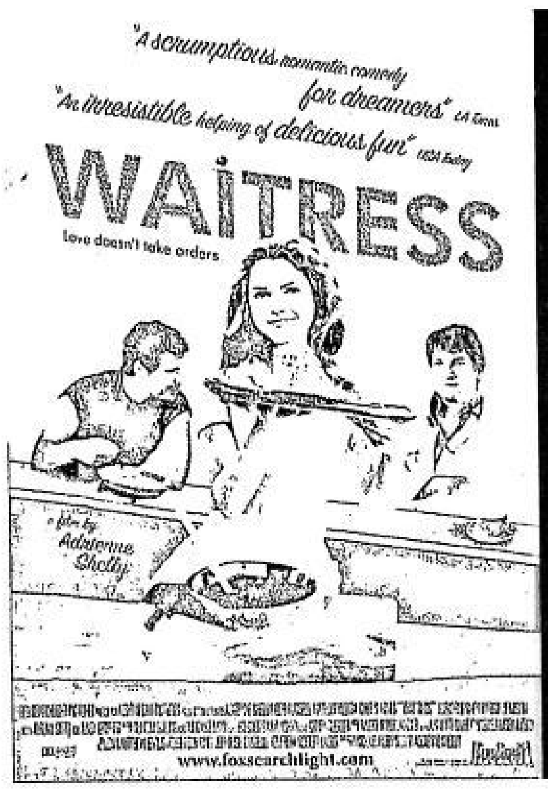

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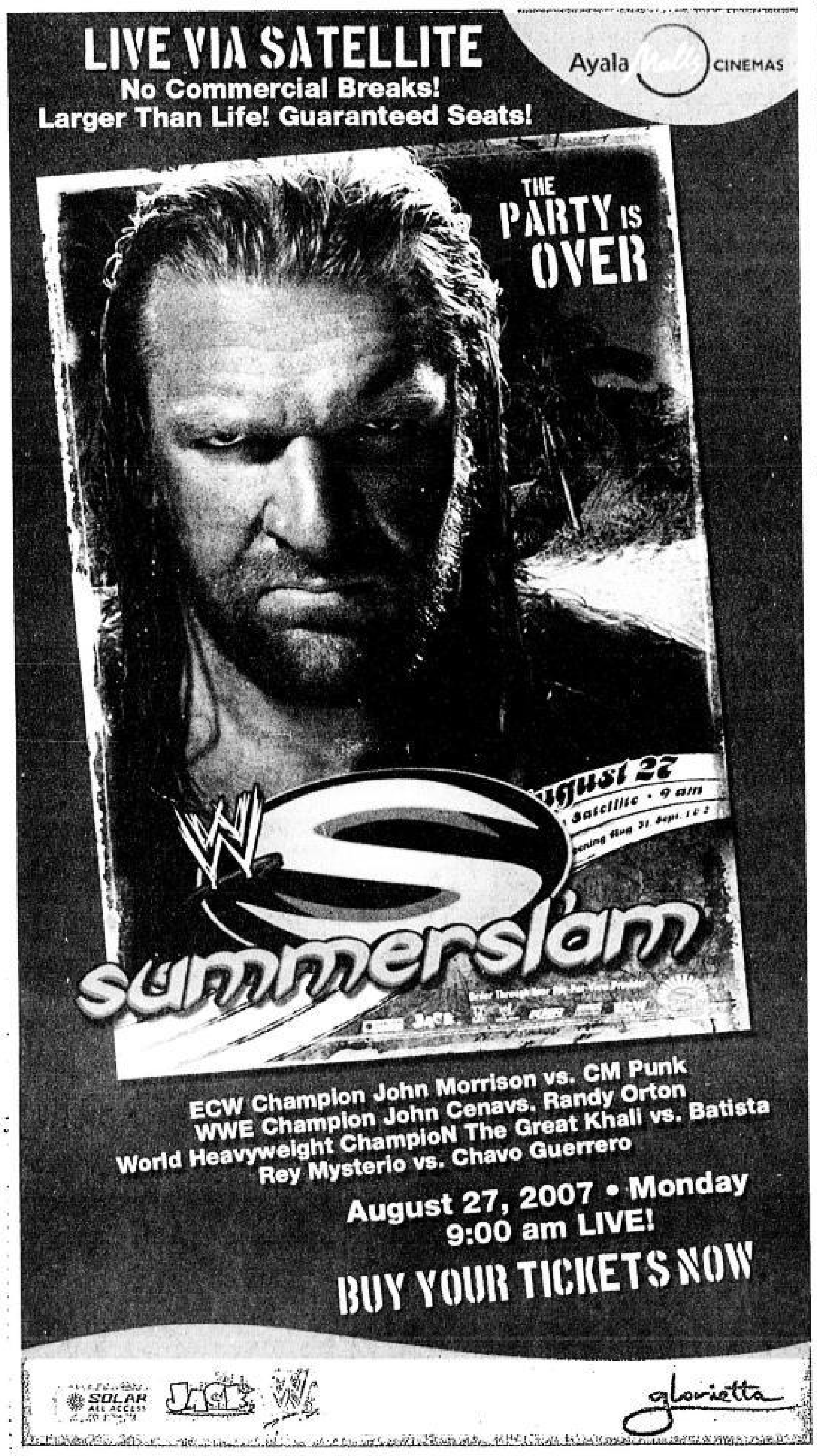

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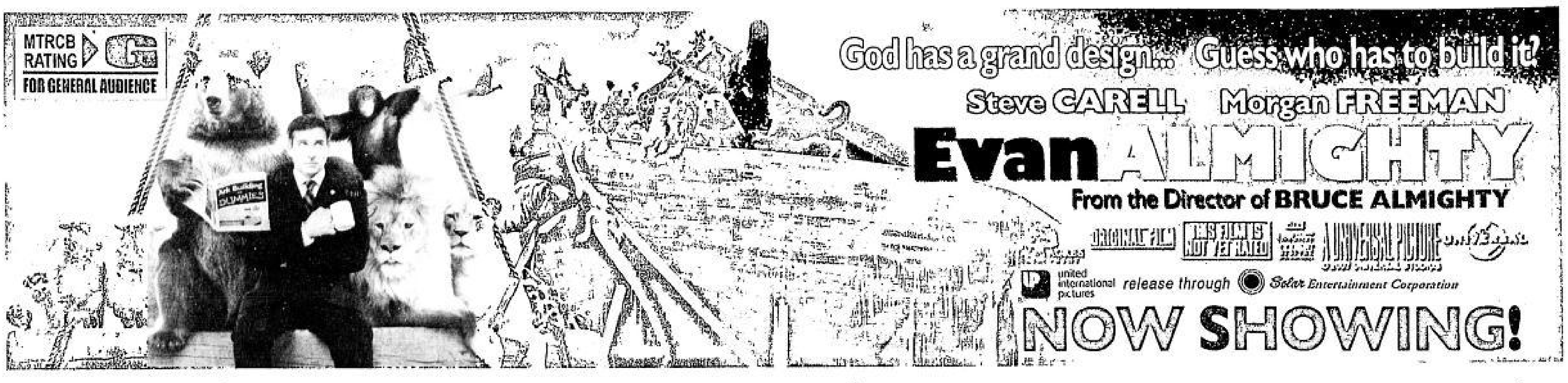

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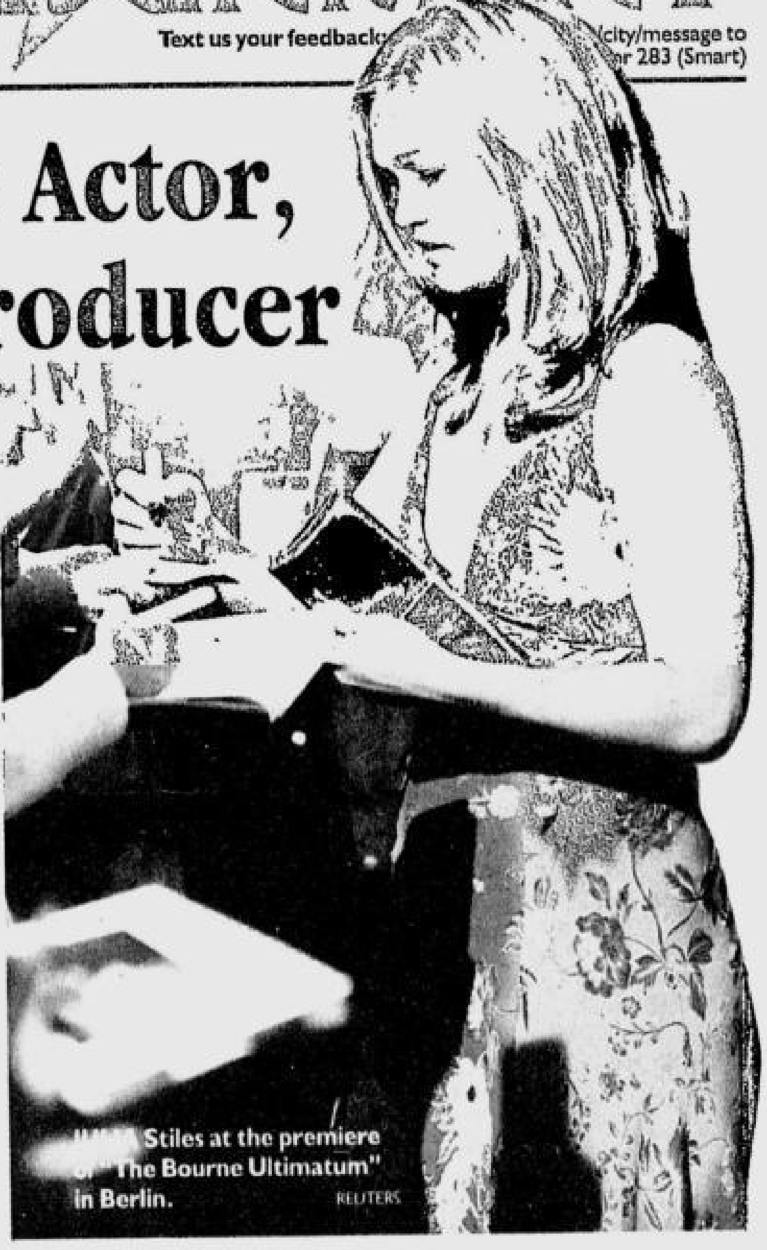
Julia Stiles: Actor, director, producer



Julia Stiles at the premiere of "The Bourne Ultimatum" in Berlin. REUTERS

By Suzi Entrata-Abrera
Contributor

INQUIRER EXCLUSIVE

JULIA STILES FIRST GAINED NOTICE AS an uptight teenager being wooed by Heath Ledger's character in the teen movie "10 Things I Hate About You."

Then she made a few more teen flicks ("A Guy Thing," "The Prince and Me"), a musical ("Save the Last Dance") and a couple of Shakespeare-inspired movies ("O" and "Hamlet").

She also joined an all-star cast led by Julia Roberts in "Mona Lisa Smile." She's done a horror film, too, playing mother to ultimate problem child Damien in a new take on the classic "The Omen."

She's done action—make that three supercharged action movies that took her character to Paris, Tangier and Madrid, among others.

Julia Stiles reprises her role as CIA agent Nicky Parsons in "The Bourne Ultimatum," the third installment of the "Bourne" series.

As the series progressed, so did her character's exposure. More and more, we see her as an integral part of finding out who Jason Bourne is. In the end, as Bourne goes after the very people who want him dead, Parsons may be the only one left to answer all the questions.

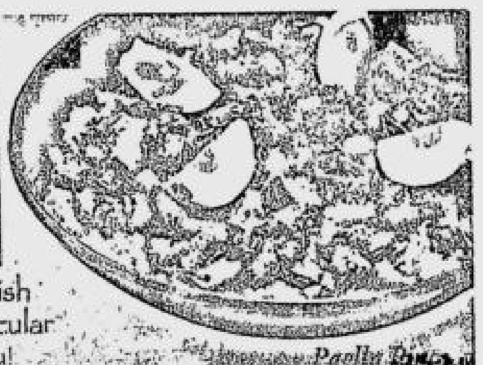
When I saw "Ultimatum," my shoulders ached from the tension.

That's what it was like to shoot the movie, how I felt like at the end of every work day.

Was it all that action and running around that left you exhausted?

It wasn't so much the action and running around. It was the scenes with Matt

JULIA/G4



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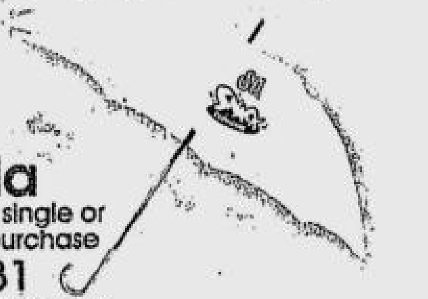

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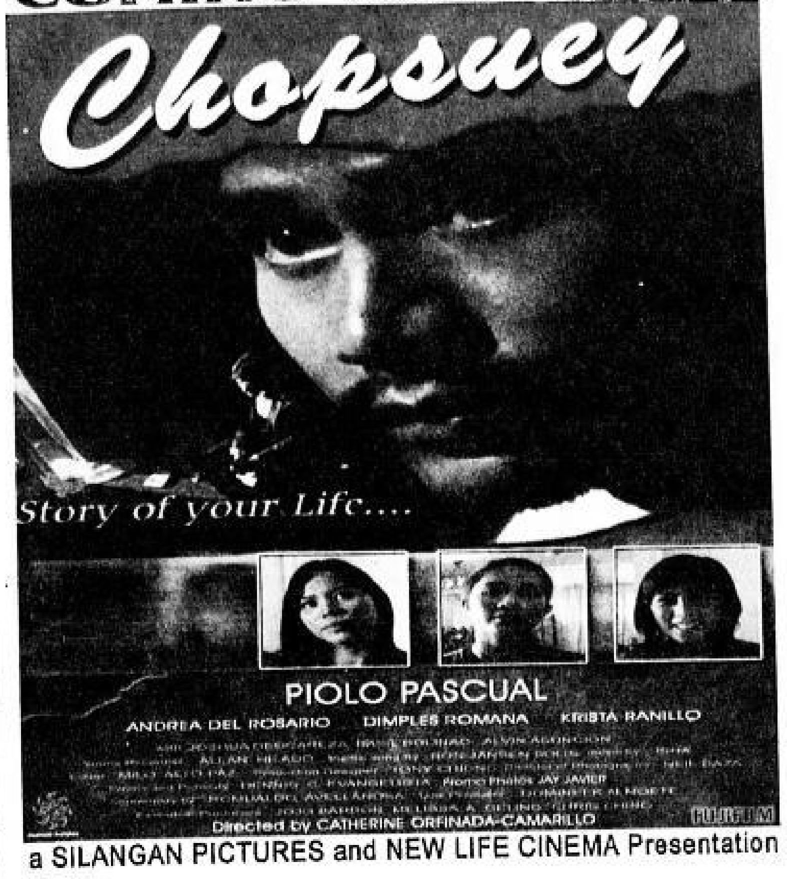

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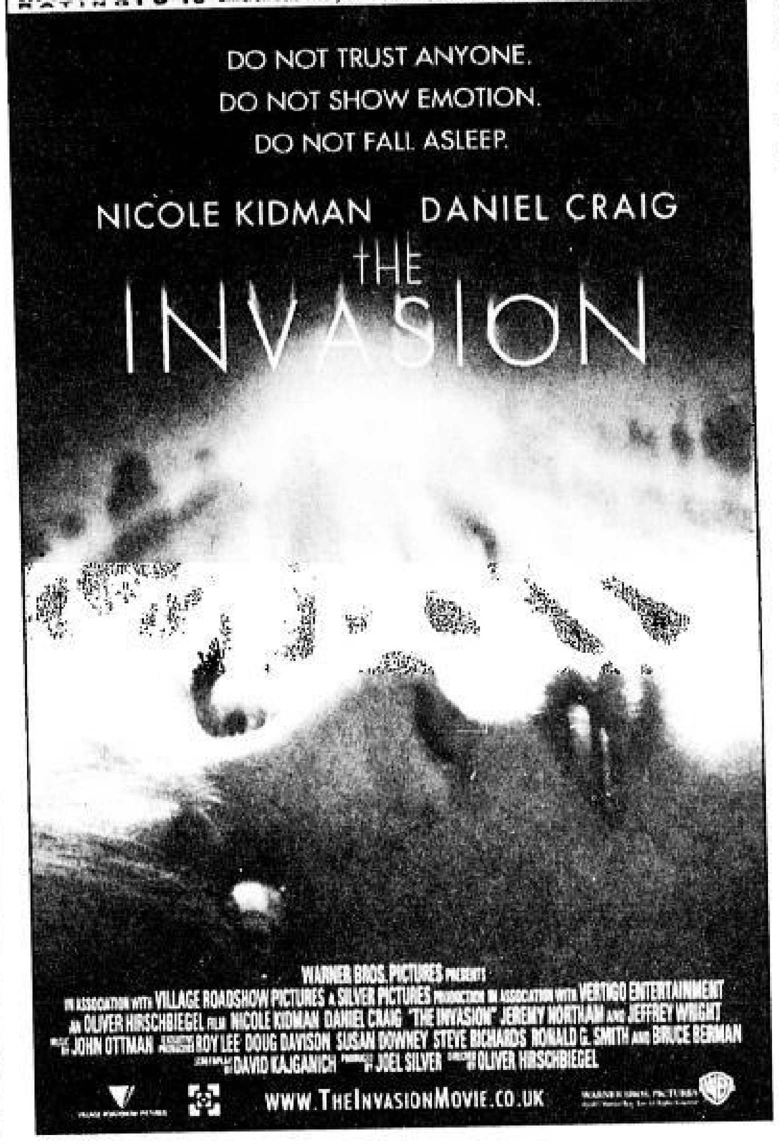

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Indie filmmakers explore alternative distribution system

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, OUR NEW BREED of indie filmmakers is reenergizing the languishing Filipino movie industry. True, the indies are encountering problems in reaching out to the large mainstream audience, but in terms of exceptional stories told and significant issues dramatized, independent filmmakers' achievements can neither be ignored nor gainsaid.

These thoughts came to mind when we recently attended a forum on the Philippine indie movie scene at the INQUIRER. Publisher **Isagani Yambot** and PDI Entertainment invited a top-rate group of panelists—filmmakers **Jim Libiran, Auraeus Solito** and **Gene Cajayon**; thespians **Cherry Pie Picache, Irma Adlawan** and **Gina Pareño**; post-production expert, Ignite's **Dave Hukom**, and financing maven **Arlene Cuevas.**

Due to the diversity of sectors and views represented, key issues related to indie filmmaking were discussed in telling detail, to everyone's elucidation.

More challenging

The actors present shared that they sought out roles in indie movies, despite the smaller fees involved, because they were much more challenging than those assigned to them in mainstream TV and films.

The post-prod people pointed out that some digital movies' dark visuals weren't a death sentence for the indie movement, but could be radically improved with a more informed use of the equipment available.

But it was the filmmakers on the panel who, to our mind, came up with the most incisive analysis of the indie scene's problems and prospects, when they zeroed in on the need to come up, not just with alternative films, but also with an alternative film *distribution* system for digital movies.

They came to this conclusion after analyzing why most indie movies playing in mainstream theaters have failed to draw crowds and thus lost money (the big exception is Solito's "Ang Pagdadalaga ni Maximo Oliveros").

They cited factors like poor technicals, excessively "private" story lines, inhospitable theater circuits, lack of TV advertising support, weak play dates or dismal screening hours, and a general tendency to treat indie movies as mainstream commercial cinema's country cousins.

Most of the panelists, therefore, concluded that instead of trying to meet the mainstream circuit's smug and inhospitable expectations with all the compromises involved, they would just figure out ways to set up an alternative distribution system for their movies, which would skip the commercial theater chain completely.

To illustrate, Libiran, director of the 2007 Cinemalaya Best Picture winner, "Tribu," shared that his film would soon have multiple screenings in Baguio in such an alternative way.

Others cited some positive results of their films being screened in schools, since students are more open to cinematic experimentation than the jaded mainstream crowd.

In all this, Cajayon pointed out that indie filmmakers shouldn't overlook the importance of coming up with stories that many people can relate to.

All too often, he observed, the blame for indie movies' poor showing is attributed to their poor technical quality, when it's really the quality and empathetic possibilities of a film's story that attracts viewers.

With all of these inputs, the panelists enhanced our appreciation of the complex task that our new wave of indie filmmakers faces today: Not just to come up with superlative alternative movies, but to also make sure that they can reach their intended audience—without losing their shirts!

The task is daunting, but it's also essential to the survival and flowering of Filipino movies, so our digital filmmakers need to be supported by the government, foundations, schools and film-savvy individuals who appreciate the importance of good movies in Filipinos' lives.

Firefly

Every Monday at 8 p.m., the C/S Channel telecasts "Firefly," a sci-fi series about a transport spaceship that takes on any job in the universe.

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RUSH HOUR 3 PG13 1:40,3:50,6:00, 8:10,10:20	EVAN ALMIGHTY G 11:40,1:50,4:00,6:10, 8:20,10:30	BOURNE ULTIMATUM PG13 12:30,3:00,5:30, 8:00,10:30
A LOVE STORY PG13 12:10,2:40,5:10, 7:40,10:10	SURF'S UP G 12:00,2:00,4:00 EVAN ALMIGHTY G 5:45,7:55,10:05	HAIRSPRAY PG13 12:30,3:00,5:30, 8:00,10:30

MOVIES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

DID YOU KNOW...

Anywhere but there

HONG KONG—Jackie Chan's new action comedy, "Rush Hour 3," did well at the US box office, but hasn't clicked with his fellow Hong Kongers. The movie made only HK$3.5 million (US$447,667) on its first weekend. *AP*

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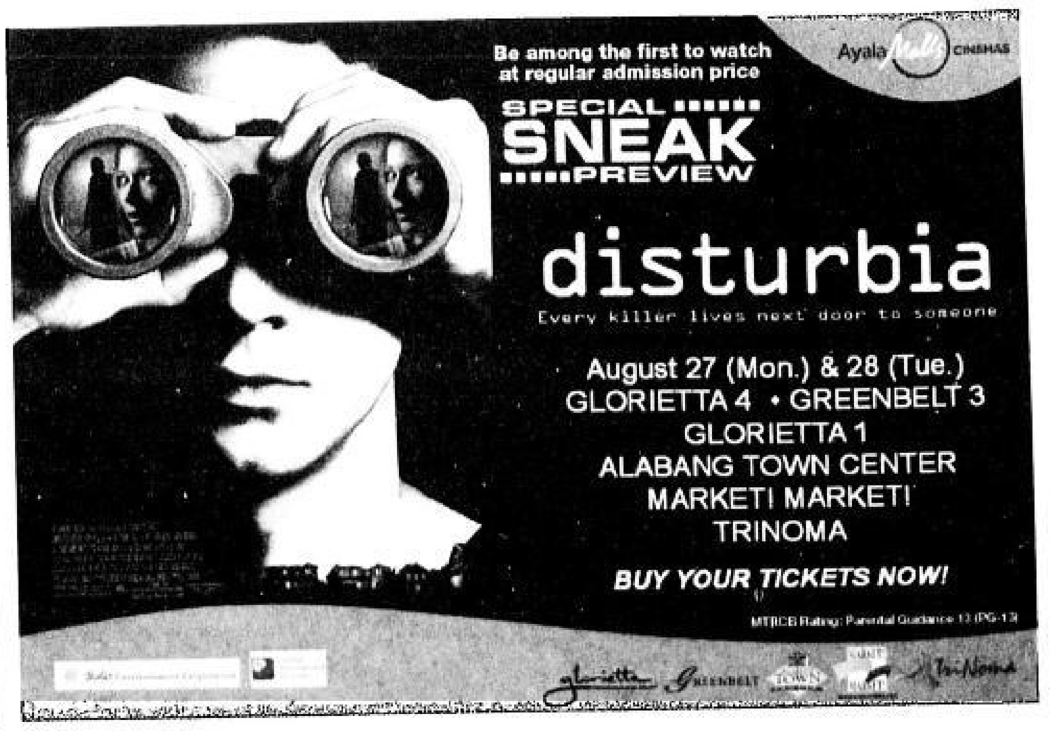

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BATANGAS

ITEM 1 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 812.00 sqm.
Lot 15785-I Interior Brgy. San Celestino, Lipa City
Market Value 81,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 57,000.00

ITEM 2 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 390.00 sqm.
Lot 4400-C Int. Sitio Putol, Pk 4, Bo., Trapiche, Tanauan
Market Value 78,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 62,000.00

ITEM 3 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 240.00 sqm
Lot 14457-B-5 Tenyente De Castro St. Brgy. Talisay, Lipa City
Market Value 94,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 75,000.00

ITEM 4 - LOT WITH MINOR IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 499.00 sqm.
L6947-B Brgy. Sulpok, Tanauan City
Market Value: 125,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 100,000.00

ITEM 5 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,485.00 sqm
L12271 Int. Brgy. Tipacan, Lipa City
Market Value 149,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 104,000.00

ITEM 6 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 88.00 sqm F. A. 48.00 sqm.
Lot 940-A-3 Bagumbayan, Tanauan
Market Value 130,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 104,000.00

ITEM 7 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 344.00 sqm F. A. 65.00 sqm
Lot 13056 Cor. Acacia & Camia St./ Brgy. San Isidro, Lipa City
Market Value 164,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 148,000.00

ITEM 8 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 858.00 sqm.
Lot 11839-A Int. Brgy. Antipolo Del Sur, Lipa City
Market Value 257,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 180,000.00

ITEM 9 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 984.00 sqm F. A. 35.00 sqm
L8559 Brgy. Montana, Tanauan City
Market Value 268,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 188,000.00

ITEM 10 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 319.00 sqm F. A. 50.00 sqm
L8556 Brgy. Montaña, Tanauan City
Market Value 210,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 189,000.00

ITEM 11 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 3,392.00 sqm
Lot 3407 Sampiro, San Juan
Market Value 237,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 190,000.00

ITEM 12 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 2,249.00 sqm.
Lot 8737 Brgy. Colongan, Rosario
Market Value 229,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 195,000.00

ITEM 13 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 774.00 sqm F. A. 48.00 sqm
Lot 10864 Sitio Subic, Janapol, Occidental Tanauan City
Market Value 218,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 196,000.00

ITEM 14 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 340.00 sqm F. A. 73.00 sqm
L055 Brgy. Calangay, San Nicolas
Market Value 267,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 200,000.00

ITEM 15 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 400.00 sqm. F. A.: 70.00 sqm
L1146-A Int. Brgy. Darasa, Tanauan
Market Value 294,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 206,000.00

ITEM 16 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 970.00 sqm.
L6700-C Brgy. Sulpok, Tanauan City
Market Value 243,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 207,000.00

ITEM 17 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 479.00 sqm.
Interior J.P. Laurel National Highway, Brgy. San Roque, Sto. Tomas
Market Value 302,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 227,000.00

ITEM 18 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 206.00 sqm. F. A. 66.00 sqm.
Lot 3597 Brgy. San Andres, Malvar
Market Value 269,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 242,000.00

ITEM 19 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 632.00 sqm. F. A. 30.00 sqm
Lot 15312-C Dao St., Pk. 7, Brgy. San Isidro, Lipa City
Market Value 307,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 246,000.00

ITEM 20 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 547.00 sqm F. A. 28.00 sqm
L6700-B Brgy. Sulpok, Tanauan City,
Market Value 275,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 248,000.00

ITEM 21 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 860.00 sqm. F. A. 46.00 sqm
L7743 Brgy. South Altura, Tanauan,
Market Value 324,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 259,000.00

ITEM 22 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 236.00 sqm. F. A.: 90.00 sqm
Lot 11 Blk 3 Macar Subd., Malaas Na Kahoy
Market Value 349,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 279,000.00

ITEM 23 - LOT WITH MINOR IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 257.00 sqm.
Lot No. 1891 No. 41 Brgy. Sampaga, Balayan
Market Value 355,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 284,000.00

ITEM 24 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 168.00 sqm F. A. 85.00 sqm
Lot No. 5285 Brgy. Buli, Taal
Market Value 396,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 297,000.00

ITEM 25 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,608 sqm. F. A. 46.00 sqm
L14498-I Int. Brgy. Tahsay, Lipa City
Market Value 445,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 312,000.00

ITEM 26 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 393.00 sqm.
Lot 21 Cudiamat St., Binubusan, Lian
Market Value 373,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 317,000.00

ITEM 27 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 3,882.00 sqm.
L10022 Brgy. Maugat, Tanauan City
Market Value 408,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 326,000.00

ITEM 28 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 337.00 sqm. F. A. 55.00 sqm
Lot No. 522 Poblacion II, Sta. Teresita
Market Value 400,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 340,000.00

ITEM 29 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 596.00 sqm F. A. 51.00 sqm.
L12375-B-2 Brgy. Tangob, Lipa City
Market Value: 442,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 354,000.00

ITEM 30 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 796.00 sqm. F. A. 95.00 sqm.
Lot 10178 Brgy. Maalas-As, Rosario
Market Value: 446,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 357,000.00

ITEM 31 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 119.00 sqm F. A.: 80.00 sqm
Lot 2270 Brgy. Tulo, Taal
Market Value 455,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 364,000.00

ITEM 32 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 621.00 sqm F. A. 54.00 sqm
Pk.1, Brgy., Sta. Cruz, Sto. Tomas
Market Value 414,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 373,000.00

ITEM 33 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,973 sqm F. A. 52.00 sqm
Lot 4673 Brgy. Balagtasin, San Luis
Market Value: 535,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 401,000.00

ITEM 34 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 387.00 sqm. F. A. 95.00 sqm
Lot 1694-B Brgy. Calayaan, Sta Teresita
Market Value: 488,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 415,000.00

ITEM 35 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 356.00 sqm F. A. 58.00 sqm
Lot No. 5766 Tierra Alta, Taal
Market Value 524,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 419,000.00

ITEM 36 - LOT WITH MINOR IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 2,586.00 sqm
Lot 1715-A Brgy. Balanga, Ibaan
Market Value 527,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 422,000.00

ITEM 37 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 55.00 sqm. F. A.: 40.00 sqm
Lot No.6-B-2 Interior Villamin St., Lemery
Market Value 462,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 443,000.00

ITEM 38 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,199 sqm. F. A. 70.00 sqm
Lot 8558 Brgy. Montana (Formerly Ik-Ik), Tanauan City
Market Value: 476,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 452,000.00

ITEM 39 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 590.00 sqm F. A. 87.00 sqm
L6946-B Brgy. Sulpok, Tanauan City
Market Value 567,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 454,000.00

ITEM 40 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 394 sqm F. A. 115.00 sqm
Lot 2-B-2-1-2 Barangay Putting Bato, Calaca
Market Value 619,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 454,000.00

ITEM 41 - LOT WITH MINOR IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,296.00 sqm
L3328-C Brgy. Natatas, Tanauan City
Market Value 583,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 466,000.00

ITEM 42 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,167sqm F. A. 90.00 sqm
Lot 5123 Brgy. Luya, San Luis
Market Value: 662,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 478,000.00

ITEM 43 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 5,264 sqm. F. A. 90.00 sqm
Lot 5126 Brgy. Luya, San Luis
Market Value 571,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 485,000.00

ITEM 44 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 206.00 sqm. F. A. 84.00 sqm.
Lot No. 1879 Antipolo, Sta. Teresita
Market Value 608,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 517,000.00

ITEM 45 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 457 sqm. F. A.: 125.00 sqm
Lot No. 2244 Calumpang East, San Luis
Market Value: 691,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 518,000.00

ITEM 46 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 674.00 sqm. F. A.: 60.00 sqm
Lot 3551-A Brgy. Santor, Tanauan City
Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 540,000.00

ITEM 47 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 411sqm. F. A.: 133.00 sqm
Calumpang East, San Luis
Market Value 726,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 545,000.00

ITEM 48 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 319.00 sqm F. A. 95.00 sqm
Lot 2373 Pt. Calumpang East, San Luis
Market Value 685,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 548,000.00

ITEM 49 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 785.00 sqm F. A.: 77.00 sqm
Lot 772 Brgy. Sto.Tomas, Agoncillo
Market Value: 617,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 555,000.00

ITEM 50 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 463.00 sqm F. A. 86.00 sqm
Lot 5174 Brgy. Buli, Taal
Market Value: 728,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 582,000.00

ITEM 51 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,289 sqm. F. A.: 39.00 sqm
Lot 3 Ten C. Pena Ext., (Formerly Orkidyas St.) Ph.7, Brgy. Tahsay, Lipa City
Market Value: 730,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 584,000.00

ITEM 52 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 5,916 sqm. F. A. 78.00 sqm.
Lot 10013 Brgy. Mangat, Tanauan City
Market Value 734,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 587,000.00

ITEM 53 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,249 sqm. F. A. 104.00 sqm
Lot 14498-C Ten C. Posa Ext. Brgy. Tahsay Lipa City
Market Value 813,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 650,000.00

ITEM 54 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 328 sqm F. A. 110.00 sqm
Lot 6582 Pt., Brgy. Bukal, Lemery
Market Value 779,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 701,000.00

ITEM 55 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 270 sqm F. A. 200.00 sqm
Lot 7, Blk. 3 Rose St., Maligaya Compd., Brgy. Sambat, Tanauan City
Market Value: 1,036,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 777,000.00

ITEM 56 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,440 sqm F. A. 92.00 sqm
Lot 005 Blk 3 Brgy. Guinta, Agoncillo
Market Value: 1,042,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 782,000.00

ITEM 57 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 201 sqm F. A.: 149.00 sqm
Lot 226 No. 152 National Road, Muzon II, Alitagtag
Market Value 907,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 816,000.00

ITEM 58 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 309.50 sqm., F. A. 75.00 sqm
Lot 1031-B P. Riñoza St., Nasugbu
Market Value. 1,100,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 825,000.00

ITEM 59 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 4,487 sqm F. A. 135.00 sqm
Lot 6550-Asilio Sulok, Brgy. Sulpok, Tanauan City
Market Value 1,042,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 834,000.00

ITEM 60 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 4,130.00 sqm.
Lot 11933-A Int. Brgy. Antipolo Delsur, Lipa City
Market Value 1,239,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 867,000.00

ITEM 061 - Vacant Agricultural Lot
L. A. 3,941.00 sqm.
Lot 2607-B Bo. Tinurik, Tanauan
Market Value 1,182,300.00
Minimum Bid Price 886,725.00

ITEM 62 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,552 sqm F. A.: 144.00 sqm.
Lot 2372-H Brgy. San Piro, Balayan
Market Value: 1,245,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 934,000.00

ITEM 63 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 960 sqm F. A. 126.00 sqm
Lot 2614-A Brgy. Tinurik, Tanauan
Market Value 1,269,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 952,000.00

ITEM 64 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 2,075 sqm. F. A.: 209.00 sqm
Lot No. 1688 Brgy. Calayaan, Sta Teresita
Market Value: 1,270,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 953,000.00

ITEM 66 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 180.00 sqm F. A. 96.00 sqm
Lot 2, Block 14 Roxaco Subdivision, Brgy. 2, Nasugbu
Market Value 1,282,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,026,000.00

ITEM 67 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 170 sqm F. A. 120.00 sqm
#43 (Previously #17) Valenzuela St (Brgy. Wawa Ilaya), Lemery
Market Value: 1,176,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,058,000.00

ITEM 68 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 369 sqm F. A.: 208.00 sqm
5172 Barangay Buli, Taal, Batangas
Market Value 1,420,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,065,000.00

ITEM 69 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,128 sqm F. A. 150.00 sqm
Lot 3755 & 3756 Brgy. Santor, Tanauan
Market Value: 1,343,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,074,000.00

ITEM 70 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 704 sqm F. A. 147.00 sqm
Lot No 7Pt National Road, Brgy. Sta Cruz, Alitagtag
Market Value 1,351,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 1,081,000.00

ITEM 71 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 891 sqm F. A. 245.00 sqm.
Lot No 55 289 R. Mendoza St., Poblacion, Agoncillo
Market Value 1,559,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,247,000.00

ITEM 72 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,188 sqm F. A.: 49.00 sqm
Lot 4124 J.P. Laurel National Highway Brgy. Santiago, Malvar
Market Value 1,394,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,255,000.00

ITEM 73 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 6,754.00 sqm
Lot 10194 Brgy. Talaga Tanauan City
Market Value 2,026,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,317,000.00

ITEM 74 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,142 sqm F. A.: 137.00 sqm
Lot 2-A-I-L-10-P Sitio Pag-Asa, Brgy. Pantay, Calaca
Market Value 1,763,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,322,000.00

ITEM 75 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,227 sqm F. A.: 183.00 sqm
L-4119 Maharlika Hi-Way Brgy. San Juan, Sto. Tomas,
Market Value 2,120,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,378,000.00

ITEM 76 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 662 sqm F. A. 128.00 sqm
Lots 6752-C & 6752-B Gonzales St., Brgy. I, Bonlog, Mataas Na Kahoy
Market Value. 1,737,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,390,000.00

ITEM 77 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 2,504 sqm. F. A.: 200.00 sqm
Lot No 3 Brgy Pamiga, Agoncillo
Market Value 2,659,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,728,000.00

ITEM 78 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 745.00 sqm
Lot 11 & 12, Block 1, Las Villas De Aguila, Bagong Sikat, Lemery
Market Value 2,980,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 2,831,000.00

ITEM 79 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 10,000.00 sqm
Lot 11-B-7 Poblacion III (Tanagan), Calatagan
Market Value 4,500,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 3,150,000.00

ITEM 080 - Residential/Agricultural Lot W/ Depreciated Improvements Formerly Utilized As Poultry Business
L. A.: 10,890.00 sqm
Lot 2268 Barrio Dagatan, San Jose, Batangas
Market Value 4,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 3,200,000.00

ITEM 81 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 1,942 sqm F. A. 268.00 sqm.
Lot 41 J.P. Rizal St., Padre Garcia
Market Value. 5,407,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 3,785,000.00

ITEM 82 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 2,227 sqm F. A.: 416.00 sqm
Lot 3-C & 3-D Int. P. Torres St., (Extension), Lipa City
Market Value 5,523,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 4,418,000.00

CAVITE

ITEM 083 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 170.00 sqm.
Lot 197-A-h Bautista Street, Bautista Subd., Binakayan, Kawit
Market Value: 350,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 332,500.00

ITEM 084 - Residential Lot W/ Split-Level Residential Bldg. W/ Terrace
L. A.: 115.00 sqm F. A. 64.00 sqm
Lot 3 Aniban, Bacoor, Cavite
Market Value 450,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 337,500.00

ITEM 085 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 221.00 sqm
Lot 4-D Wisdom St., Cityland, Carmona Heights II, Carmona
Market Value 663,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 596,700.00

ITEM 86 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 10, Blk 28, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 855,000.00

ITEM 87 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 11, Blk 28, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 855,000.00

ITEM 88 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 32, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 855,000.00

ITEM 89 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 27, Blk 15, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 855,000.00

ITEM 90 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 40, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 855,000.00

ITEM 91 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm.
Lot 19, Blk 40, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 855,000.00

ITEM 92 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm
Lot 4, Blk 37, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 855,000.00

ITEM 93 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 340.00 sqm.
Lot 29, Blk 15, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 1,020,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 969,000.00

ITEM 94 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 410.00 sqm.
Lot 24, Blk 36, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin), Silang
Market Value: 1,230,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,169,000.00

ITEM 095 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A. 1,000.00 sqm.
Lot 5 Block 9 Road Lot 12, Rodeo Countryside Estate, Barrio Esperanza Alfonzo
Market Value: 1,500,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,200,000.00

ITEM 096 - Residential Lot W/ Residential Bldg. W/ Basement & Extension
L. A. 400 sqm F. A.: 359.10 sqm
Lot 13 Blk. 9 Acapulco Street, Cityland Green Breeze Village VI, Brgy. Biklatan, Gen. Trias
Market Value 1,600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,200,000.00

ITEM 97 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 488.00 sqm.
Lot 9, Blk 11, The Riviera Golf And Country Club, Brgy. Lungon(Formerly Lucsuhin) Silang
Market Value 1,610,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,530,000.00

ITEM 098 - Residential Lot W/ 2-Storey Residential Apartment
L. A. 150 sqm F. A. 288.75 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk. 2 Doña Anding Street, St. Martin De Porres Subd., Bayan Luma, Imus
Market Value 2,300,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 1,955,000.00

ITEM 099 - Residential Lot W/ Bungalow Type Residential Bldg.
L. A. 374 sqm. F. A. 200.00 sqm.
Lot 2324 Malagasang Road, Malagasang II-B Imus
Market Value: 3,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 2,550,000.00

ITEM 0100 - Residential Lot W/ 3-Storey Residential Bldg. W/ Roofdeck
L. A.: 120 sqm. F. A. 413.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk. 11 Yakal Street, Andreaville Executive Salitran, Dasmariñas
Market Value 4,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 3,200,000.00

ITEM 0101 - Residential Lot W/ 2-Storey Unfinished Residential/ Commercial Bldg
L. A.: 159.30 sqm. F. A.: 513 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk. 2 Bukandala, Provincial Rd., Maricris Homes, Alapan I, Imus
Market Value: 5,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 3,750,000.00

ITEM 0102 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 444.00 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk. 8Gomez Street, Ayala Southvale Vil., Phase I, Molino, Bacoor
Market Value: 7,992,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 6,793,200.00

LAGUNA

ITEM 103 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 71.50 sqm.
Lot 40 Blk 6 Road, Sta. Rosa Homes, Brgy. Dita, Sta. Rosa
Market Value. 157,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 157,000.00

ITEM 104 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 71.50 sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 7 Road, Sta. Rosa Homes, Brgy. Dita, Sta. Rosa
Market Value: 157,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 157,000.00

ITEM 105 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 71.50 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 7 Road, Sta. Rosa Homes, Brgy. Dita, Sta. Rosa
Market Value: 157,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 157,000.00

ITEM 106 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 71.50 sqm.
Lot 18 Blk 12 Road, Sta. Rosa Homes, Brgy. Dita, Sta. Rosa
Market Value: 157,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 157,000.00

ITEM 107 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 71.50 sqm.
Lot 19 Blk 12 Road, Sta. Rosa Homes, Brgy. Dita, Sta. Rosa
Market Value 157,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 157,000.00

ITEM 110 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 107.00 sqm.
Lot 41 Blk 6 Road, Sta. Rosa Homes, Brgy. Dita, Sta. Rosa
Market Value: 268,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 268,000.00

ITEM 0111 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 165.00 sqm
Lot 23 Blk. 10 Aldramm Village, Brgy. Callios Sta. Cruz
Market Value 330,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 280,500.00

ITEM 0112 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 165.00 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk. 10 Aldramm Village, Brgy. Callios Sta. Cruz
Market Value: 330,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 280,500.00

ITEM 0113 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 208.00 sqm.
Lot 6-E Bo. San Benito, Alaminos
Market Value: 312,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 296,400.00

ITEM 0114 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 234.00 sqm.
Lot 6-F Bo. San Benito, Alaminos
Market Value 351,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 333,450.00

ITEM 0115 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 240.00 sqm
Lot 30 San Cristobal St., Green Valley Subd. Bo. San Francisco, San Pablo City
Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 480,000.00

ITEM 0116 - Residential Lot W/ 2-Door Bungalow
L. A. 189.00 sqm. F. A.: 83.50 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk. 6 Corner Uranus & Unnamed Streets Abd Subd., Brgy. Del Remedio San Pablo City
Market Value 778,500.00
Minimum Bid Price 500,000.00

ITEM 0117 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 222.00 sqm.
Lot 18 Blk. 10 Corner Palawan & Marinduque Streets South City Homes, Calaboso, Biñan
Market Value 666,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 555,000.00

ITEM 0118 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A. 203.00 sqm.
Lot 2-G-7 Buncaya Park Subd., Bo San Roque San Pablo City
Market Value 879,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 835,050.00

ITEM 0119 - 5-Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 2,092.00 sqm
Lots 143-E, F, G, H, I Road Lot 143-J, Barrio Balay, Hangin Calauan
Market Value 1,300,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,040,000.00

ITEM 0120 - Residential Lot W/ Bungalow
L. A.: 346 sqm F. A.: 105.00 sqm.
Lot 1454-C-4 Barangay Bagumbayan, Sta. Cruz Laguna
Market Value: 1,300,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 1,105,000.00

ITEM 0121 - Residential Lot W/ Bungalow
L. A. 180 sqm F. A. 180.00 sqm
Lot 3 Blk. 14 Burgos Street, Pacita, Complex 1, Phase 3, San Pedro
Market Value 2,200,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 1,870,000.00

ITEM 0122 - Agricultural/Industrial Lot W/ Office & Feedmill
L. A.: 7,500 sqm F. A. 380.00 sqm.
Lot 1-A Bo. Perez, Municipality Of Calauan
Market Value 2,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 2,000,000.00

ITEM 0123 - Residential Lot W/ 2-Storey Residential Bldg
L. A. 222 sqm F. A. 368.80 sqm.
Lot 55 Blk. 16 Matulungin Street, Katapatan Mutual Homes, Banay-Banay Cabuyao
Market Value 3,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 2,550,000.00

ITEM 0124 - Vacant Residenal Lot
L. A.: 1,615.00 sqm.
Lot 16 Along Unnamed Barrio Road, Brgy. Libis, Lalakbay, Los Baños
Market Value: 3,200,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 2,560,000.00

ITEM 0125 - Residential Lot W/ Minor Improvement Ricemill
L. A.: 1,239 sqm F. A.: 797.10 sqm
Lot 2530 Rizal Street, Pila
Market Value 3,100,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 2,635,000.00

ITEM 0126 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A. 2,799.00 sqm.
Lot 17480 Brgy. Del Remedio, San Pablo City
Market Value: 4,200,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 3,570,000.00

ITEM 0127 - Vacant Residential Lot
L. A.: 3,776.00 sqm
Lot 17444 Brgy. Del Remedio, San Pablo City
Market Value 5,654,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 5,380,800.00

MARINDUQUE

ITEM 128 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 296.00 sqm.
Lot 1222 Bgy. Bagtingon, Buenavista
Market Value 47,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 42,000.00

ITEM 129 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 405.00 sqm.
L1129 Brgy. Bagtingon, Buenavista
Market Value 85,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 62,000.00

ITEM 130 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 191.00 sqm. F. A.: 85.00 sqm.
Lot 428 Bgy. Bahi, Gasan
Market Value: 92,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 74,000.00

ITEM 131 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 292.00 sqm. F. A. 69.00 sqm
Lot 9932 Bgy. Tarug, Mogpog
Market Value 410,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 267,000.00

ITEM 132 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 980.00 sqm. F. A.: 92.00 sqm.
L2072 No. 64 Bgy. Lusok, Sta. Cruz.
Market Value. 396,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 297,000.00

ITEM 133 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 140.00 sqm. F. A.: 72.00 sqm.
Lot 122720 Bgy. Laylay, Boac
Market Value 431,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 366,000.00

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

ITEM 134 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 253.00 sqm.
Lot 59-L National Road, Brgy. Balao, Abra De Ilog
Market Value 38,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 38,000.00

ITEM 135 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 252.00 sqm.
Lot 58-M National Road, Brgy. Balao, Abra De Ilog,
Market Value: 38,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 38,000.00

ITEM 136 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 400.00 sqm.
Pin 026-11-004-01-022 Mulawin, Sta Cruz
Market Value: 60,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 45,000.00

ITEM 137 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 1,001.00 sqm.
Lot No. 1564 Poblacion, Magsaysay
Market Value: 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 68,000.00

ITEM 138 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 400.00 sqm.
Lot 1490-A-3 Sitio Waray, Poblacion 2, Sta Cruz
Market Value: 100,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 75,000.00

ITEM 139 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 475.00 sqm.
Lot 311 Ligaya, Sablayan
Market Value 95,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 81,000.00

ITEM 140 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 400.00 sqm
Lot 1045-B Brgy Payompon, Mamburao
Market Value: 120,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 84,000.00

ITEM 141 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 475.00 sqm. F. A.: 59.00 sqm
Lot 310 Ligaya, Sablayan
Market Value: 122,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 98,000.00

ITEM 142 - AGRILAND WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 31,840.00 sqm.
Lot No 1950-C Sitio Biwan, Central Jose
Market Value: 127,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 102,000.00

ITEM 143 - AGRILAND
L. A. 26,804.00 sqm.
Lot No 99-B Sitio Antipolo(Formerly Arik-Ik) Brgy. Mangarin, San Jose
Market Value 161,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 121,000.00

ITEM 144 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 475 sqm F. A. 178.00 sqm.
Lot 312 Ligaya, Sablayan
Market Value: 232,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 198,000.00

ITEM 145 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,001 sqm F. A. 70.00 sqm.
Lot 1026 Quirino Street, Magsaysay
Market Value 268,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 214,000.00

ITEM 146 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 745 sqm. F. A. 145.00 sqm
Lot 369 Adela Rizal
Market Value. 365,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 292,000.00

ITEM 147 - LOT WITH MINOR IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 8,046.00 sqm.
Lot 10804 Sitio Subic, Janopol
Market Value: 966,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 773,000.00

ITEM 148 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 295.00 sqm. F. A.: 85.00 sqm
Lot 3 & 99-A Dangeros St., Buenavista, Sablayan
Market Value 986,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 887,000.00

ITEM 149 - AGRILAND
L. A.: 118,186.00 sqm.
Lot No 3033 Rumbang, Rizal
Market Value 1,773,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,330,000.00

ORIENTAL MINDORO

ITEM 150 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 200.00 sqm
Lot 1809-B-3-B Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 60,000.00

ITEM 151 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 200.00 sqm
Lot 1809-B-3-C Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

ITEM 152 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 200.00 sqm.
Lot 1809-B-3-D Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

ITEM 153 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 200.00 sqm.
Lot 1809-B-3-E Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value: 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

ITEM 154 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 200.00 sqm
Lot 1809-B-3-G Lalud, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro
Market Value: 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

ITEM 155 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 200.00 sqm
Lot 1809-B-3-I Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value. 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 64,000.00

ITEM 156 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 200.00 sqm.
Lot 1809-B-3-H Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value: 80,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 64,000.00

ITEM 157 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 220.00 sqm
Lot 1809-B-1-H Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value: 88,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 70,000.00

ITEM 158 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 592.00 sqm. F. A.: 48.00 sqm.
Lot E-2-C-1 Sitio Guijo, Narra, Gloria
Market Value 98,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 74,000.00

ITEM 159 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 299.00 sqm
Lot 1809-B-1-I Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value 120,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 96,000.00

ITEM 160 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 400.00 sqm
Lot 1-A-7-B Malaya (Formerly Alcadesma), Bansud
Market Value. 120,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 102,000.00

ITEM 161 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 2,508.00 sqm
Lot 1333-A-4 Kaligtasan, Bongabong
Market Value: 142,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 114,000.00

ITEM 162 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 400.00 sqm. F. A.: 60.00 sqm
J-2 Alma Villa, Gloria
Market Value: 162,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 122,000.00

ITEM 163 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 150.00 sqm F. A.: 48.00 sqm
Lot 5-A-4-B Bagombayan II, Bongabong
Market Value 167,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 125,000.00

ITEM 164 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 5,000.00 sqm
Lot 1333-A-5 Kaligtasan, Bongabong
Market Value: 175,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 131,000.00

ITEM 165 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 904 sqm F. A.: 130.00 sqm
Lot 2424-B-2 Calinisan, Naujan
Market Value 197,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 146,000.00

ITEM 166 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 631.00 sqm.
Lot No. 39-B-7 Poblacion III, Victoria
Market Value 189,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 151,000.00

ITEM 167 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 631.00 sqm.
Lot No. 39-B-8 Poblacion III, Victoria
Market Value 189,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 151,000.00

ITEM 168 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 631.00 sqm.
Lot 39-B-5 Poblacion III(Malayas), Victoria
Market Value 189,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 151,000.00

ITEM 169 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 631.00 sqm.
Lot 39-B-6 Poblacion III(Malayas), Victoria
Market Value: 189,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 151,000.00

ITEM 170 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 104.00 sqm. F. A.: 72.00 sqm
Lot 962-E-1 M. Adriatico, Gloria
Market Value 204,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 153,000.00

ITEM 171 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 200.00 sqm F. A.: 86.00 sqm
Lot 5-E-3-I Bagombayan II, Bongabong
Market Value: 182,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 155,000.00

ITEM 172 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 11,250 sqm. F. A. 198 sqm.
Lot 9-B Tinalunan, Gloria
Market Value 308,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 216,000.00

ITEM 173 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 150.00 sqm. F. A.: 75.00 sqm
Lot 3-D-4-B-6-B Poblacion, Bansud
Market Value 270,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 243,000.00

ITEM 174 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 188.00 sqm. F. A.: 67.00 sqm
Lot 121-T Nautical Highway, Sumagui, Bansud
Market Value 267,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 254,000.00

ITEM 175 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 171.00 sqm
Lot 4 Blk 2 Seaside Ville Subd., Pinamalayan
Market Value: 359,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 287,000.00

ITEM 176 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 158.00 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 2 Seaside Ville Subd., Pinamalayan
Market Value 332,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 315,000.00

ITEM 177 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 1,025 sqm F. A. 120.00 sqm
Lot Nos. D-6-A & D-6-B-7 Sta Maria (Formerly Bulbugan), Gloria
Market Value: 373,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 336,000.00

ITEM 178 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 181.00 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 2 Seaside Ville Subd., Pinamalayan,
Market Value: 380,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 361,000.00

ITEM 179 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 2,000.00 sqm
Lot B-3-G-1 Along Provincial Road, Brgy. Bagsok, Socorro
Market Value: 426,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 376,000.00

ITEM 180 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 300.00 sqm F. A.: 68.00 sqm.
Lot 11, Blk.4 Bagombayan I, Bongabong
Market Value: 504,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 378,000.00

ITEM 181 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 945.00 sqm. F. A.: 42.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Samagui, Bansud
Market Value 446,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 401,000.00

ITEM 182 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 311 sqm. F. A. 115.00 sqm
Lot 4 Catmon, Sumague, Bansud
Market Value 457,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 411,000.00

ITEM 183 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 300 sqm. F. A.: 100.00 sqm
Lot 12 Blk. 28 N. Jamilla Sr. St., Poblacion, Gloria
Market Value 530,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 477,000.00

ITEM 184 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 954.00 sqm. F. A.: 84.00 sqm
Lot 2424-C-2 Calinisan, Naujan
Market Value 538,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 484,000.00

ITEM 185 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 263.00 sqm. F. A.: 60.00 sqm.
Lot 29-C-4-A Poblacion, Bansud
Market Value 649,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 487,000.00

ITEM 186 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 386.00 sqm
Lot 5 Blk 3 Salong, Calapan City
Market Value 622,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 498,000.00

ITEM 187 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 500 sqm. F. A.: 104.00 sqm
Lot 6-H-2 & Lot 6-H-3 Sitio Masagana, Poblacion, Bansud
Market Value 610,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 519,000.00

ITEM 188 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 840.00 sqm. F. A.: 99.00 sqm
Lot 2508-D-1 Brgy. Aneling, Pinamalayan
Market Value: 599,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 539,000.00

ITEM 190 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 27,484 sqm. F. A.: 130 sqm
Lot 1-D Mantulatula, Pola
Market Value 856,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 556,000.00

ITEM 191 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 2,368.00 sqm.
Lot 1809-B-2 Lalud, Calapan City
Market Value 947,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 663,000.00

ITEM 192 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 575 sqm F. A.: 214.00 sqm.
Lot 977-A E. Maliwanag St., Poblacion, Mansalay
Market Value: 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 810,000.00

ITEM 193 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 618 sqm. F. A.: 284.00 sqm
Lot 7 & 8 All In Blk.4 Seaside Subd., Pinamalayan
Market Value 1,279,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,023,000.00

ITEM 194 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 13,840 sqm. F. A.: 176 sqm.
Lot C & D Pagalagala, Pinamalayan
Market Value: 1,463,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,097,000.00

ITEM 195 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 428 sqm F. A. 160.00 sqm
Lot 3-G Poblacion, Bansud
Market Value. 1,391,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,113,000.00

ITEM 196 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A.: 373 sqm F. A.: 196.00 sqm
Lot 5 Blk 2 Seaside Ville Subd Pinamalayan
Market Value 1,626,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,301,000.00

ITEM 197 - LOT WITH MINOR IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 9,052.00 sqm.
Lot 1-A & Lot G-1A Poblacion, Bansud
Market Value: 1,810,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 1,448,000.00

ITEM 198 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 10,982.50 sqm
F. A.: 417.00 sqm
Lot 2-A Sitio Madugo, Magsaysay Ave., Poblacion, Roxas
Market Value 6,998,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 4,541,000.00

QUEZON PROVINCE

ITEM 199 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 288.00 sqm.
Lot 9694 Poblacion, Municipality Of Lopez
Market Value 173,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 121,000.00

ITEM 200 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 190.00 sqm.
Lot 16 Blk 1 Barrio Of Palola-Malapit, Lucban
Market Value 323,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 242,000.00

ITEM 201 - VACANT LOT
L. A.: 148.00 sqm
Lot 3 Blk 1 Bgy. Domoit, Lucena City
Market Value 266,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 253,000.00

ITEM 202 - VACANT LOT
L. A. 720.00 sqm
Lot 2-A-1 Poblacion 1, Real
Market Value 360,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 268,000.00

ITEM 203 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 364 sqm. F. A. 110.00 sqm
Lot 6672-B-9 & 6672-B-3 Bgy. Bubangin, Alimonan
Market Value 685,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 480,000.00

ITEM 204 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 105.00 sqm F. A. 90.00 sqm
Ejv. Orias St., Poblacion, Tayabas
Market Value 548,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 493,000.00

ITEM 205 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 201 sqm F. A. 170.00 sqm
Lot 6 Blk 3 Bo. Quipot, Tiaong
Market Value: 935,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 748,000.00

ITEM 206 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 102 sqm F. A. 190.00 sqm
Lot 2-A Blk 7 Bo. Mateona, Tayabas
Market Value 950,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 808,000.00

ITEM 207 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
L. A. 261 sqm F. A. 142.00 sqm
Lot 41 Barrio Of Progreso, Gumaca
Market Value 1,077,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 916,000.00

ITEM 0208 - Residential/Industrial Lot W/ Rice Mill, Canopy, 2-Storey Residential Bldg & Storage
L. A.: 1,446 sqm F. A.: 474.00 sqm
Lots 2, 3 & 3-B-2-B Diversion Road, Barrio Ilayang, Mayao Lucena City
Market Value 2,300,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 2,070,000.00

ITEM 0209 - Vacant Commercial/ Residential Lot
L. A. 944.00 sqm.
Lot 6486 Quezon Ave. Corner P. Paterno Street Tayabas
Market Value 9,500,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 9,550,000.00

PRIME PROPERTIES

BATANGAS

ITEM 0210 - Vacant Residential/Commercial/ Industrial Lots
L. A. 9,348.00 sqm
Lots 3685 & 6384 Calansayan, San Jose
Market Value 14,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 11,900,000.00

CAVITE

ITEM 0211 - Vacant Agricultural Lot
L. A.: 8,304.00 sqm.
Lot 8 Barrio Panungyanan, Gen. Trias
Market Value: 11,600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 9,280,000.00

ITEM 0212 - Residential Lot W/ 2 Warehouses Office Unit W/ Extension & 3-Storey Bldg W/ Penthouse, Roofdeck & Helipad
L. A.: 1,522.00 sqm.
F. A.: 2,030.00 sqm.
Lots 2-A, 2-B & Lot 1 Blk. 2 Alis Corner Mabolo Corner Guyabano Streets, Green Field Heights Bucal, Dasmariñas
Market Value 15,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 12,000,000.00

LAGUNA

ITEM 0213 - Mixed Light Commercial/ Industrial Lot W/ One 4-Storey Commercial Bldg., Two 2-Storey Guard House
L. A.: 1,099.00 sqm.
F. A.: 1,218.00 sqm
Lot 2044-C-2-D Biñan-Carmona National Highway Biñan
Market Value 15,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 13,500,000.00

QUEZON PROVINCE

ITEM 0214 - Commercial Lot W/ 4-Storey Bldg & Rooftop
L. A.: 419.00 sqm.
F. A.: 1,672.46 sqm
Lot 2430 Quezon Ave. Corner Leo Guinto Lucena City
Market Value 20,000,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 19,500,000.00

ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES

CAVITE

ITEM 0215 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 150.00 sqm.
L2, B6,Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 525,000.00

ITEM 0216 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 150.00 sqm.
L3, B6Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 525,000.00

ITEM 0217 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 150.00 sqm
L5, B6Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 525,000.00

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Lot Area 150.00 sqm.
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Lot Area 150.00 sqm
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Market Value 600,000.00
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ITEM 0225 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 150.00 sqm
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Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 525,000.00

ITEM 0226 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area. 150.00 sqm.
L15 B6Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 525,000.00

ITEM 0227 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 150.00 sqm.
L16 B6Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 600,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 525,000.00

ITEM 0228 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 200.00 sqm.
L8, B9Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 800,000.00
Minimum Bid Price 700,000.00

ITEM 0229 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
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L15, B9Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
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Minimum Bid Price : 672,000.00

ITEM 0230 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 150.00 sqm.
L10 B12Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 600,000.00
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ITEM 0231 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 200.00 sqm.
L3, B10Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 900,000.00
Minimum Bid Price : 800,000.00

ITEM 0232 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area. 215.00 sqm.
L18, B10Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 967,500.00
Minimum Bid Price 860,000.00

ITEM 0233 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
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Market Value: 832,000.00
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ITEM 0234 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
Lot Area 207.00 sqm.
L13, B1Grand Garden Villas, First Caviteindustrial Estate, Dasmariñas
Market Value 931,500.00
Minimum Bid Price 826,000.00

ITEM 0235 - Vacant Residential/Subdiv. Lot
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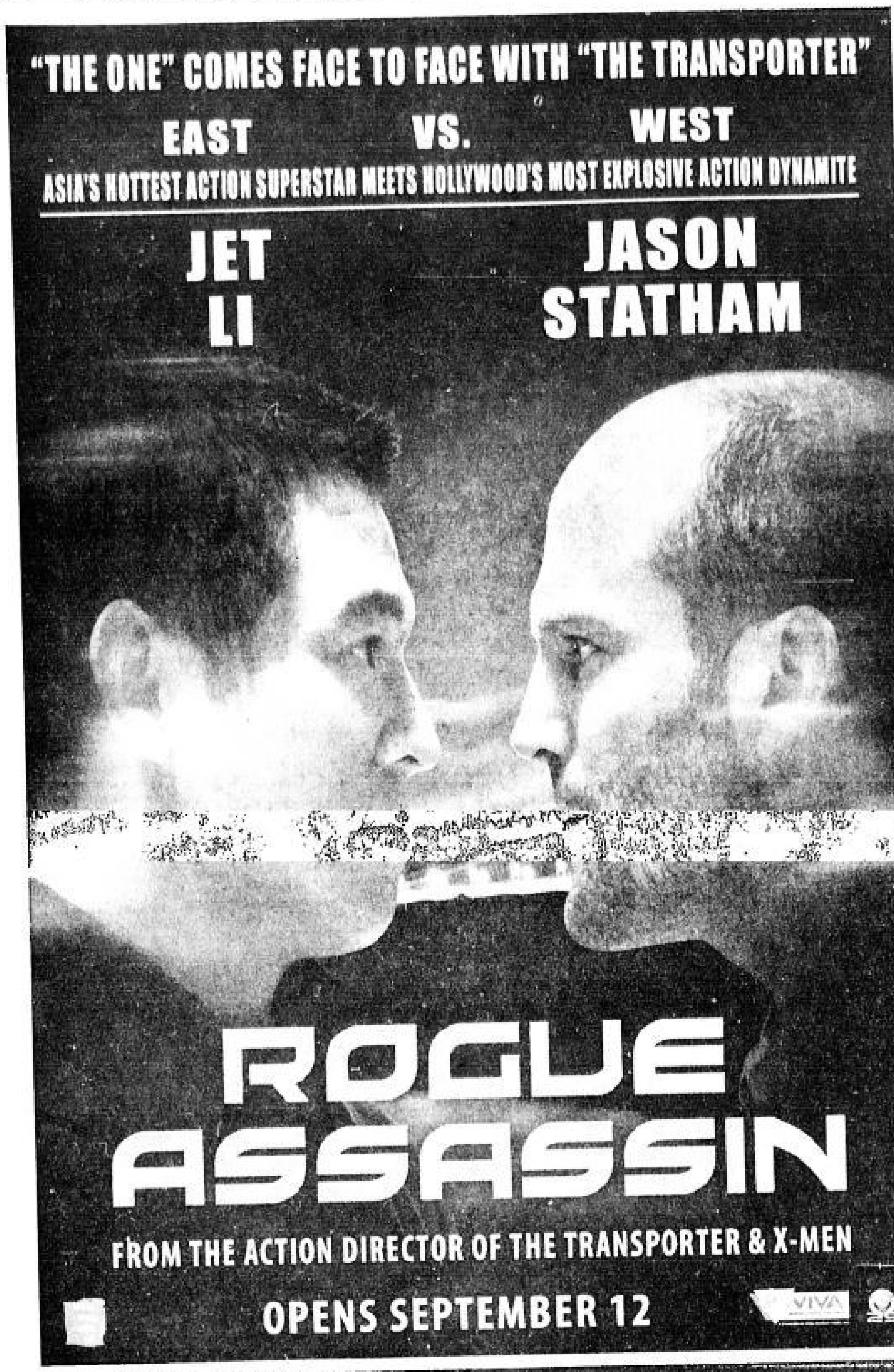
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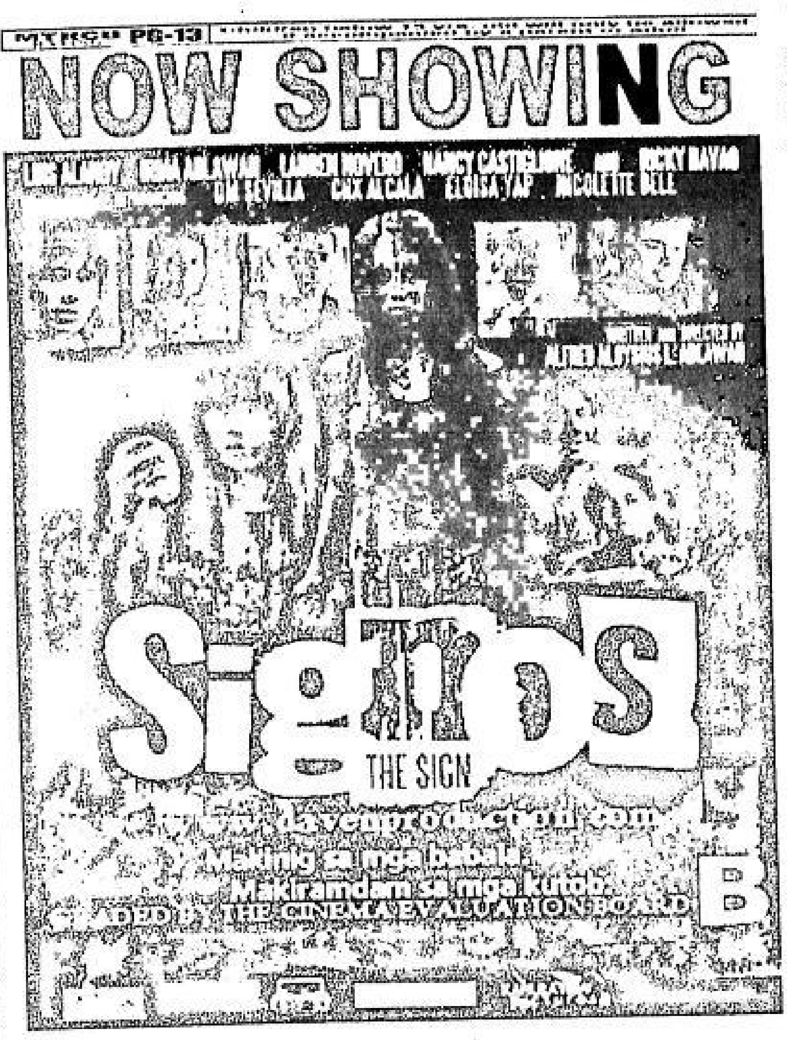
OPENS SEPTEMBER 12
VIVA

Julia Stiles: Actor, director, producer

From page G1

(Damon). There's something very restrained about that because we're not saying a lot with the dialogue. We're saying more in terms of our facial expressions. Paul (Greengrass, Academy Award-nominated director) likes to direct us where there's tension bubbling under the surface that doesn't actually come out. And you hold that all day long, so it's exhausting.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Sigaw
THE SIGN
B

Would you like to do more action films?

Normally I would say no; I think action movies are formulaic and girls don't usually get to do that much. I've been so lucky to be part of this series. It would be a tough act to follow.

What's it like working with Matt Damon?

He's terrific. I have a lot of respect for him. He's very dedicated to his family. And he also works very hard. It's amazing to watch him balance those two priorities. I think any actor who's doing a third in a series could easily have cashed in on their paycheck and not really cared about the film. But he worked so hard every day to make sure that it was a good film and something he could be proud of.

You admired Matt for balancing family life and work. But you have also managed to study and work at the same time.

Well, I've graduated, so now I have a lot more free time in between jobs. Which is very refreshing. But when I was in school, I was lucky because I was going to a place where they would let me take a semester off if I wanted to work. And that helped a lot.

Congratulations on directing your own screenplay, "Raving." What was it like directing your first film?

It was really great. I had been writing in college but I never thought I would get the opportunity to direct anything. Also, it was great to do it as a 20-minute short, because it was a great first experience in terms of learning some of the post-production stuff. And I went to the set of "Bourne Ultimatum" after that with a totally different perspective on filmmaking. I was asking Paul a lot of questions. And then I went to the editing room to watch them put together some of the action sequences. It made me feel I was much more a part of the collaboration.

Are you producing your next movie, "The Bell Jar"?

Yes, I'm producing it with the same company that produced my short film, Plum Pictures.

How does one learn to be a producer?

You don't, really. I'm certainly winging it right now. Plum is helping me out in terms of logistics. I'm producing by default because I got the rights for the book.

What do you do for fun?

I love going out to hear live music. I live in New York City. But now I find myself going out to the country. I like being in the woods and go horseback riding.

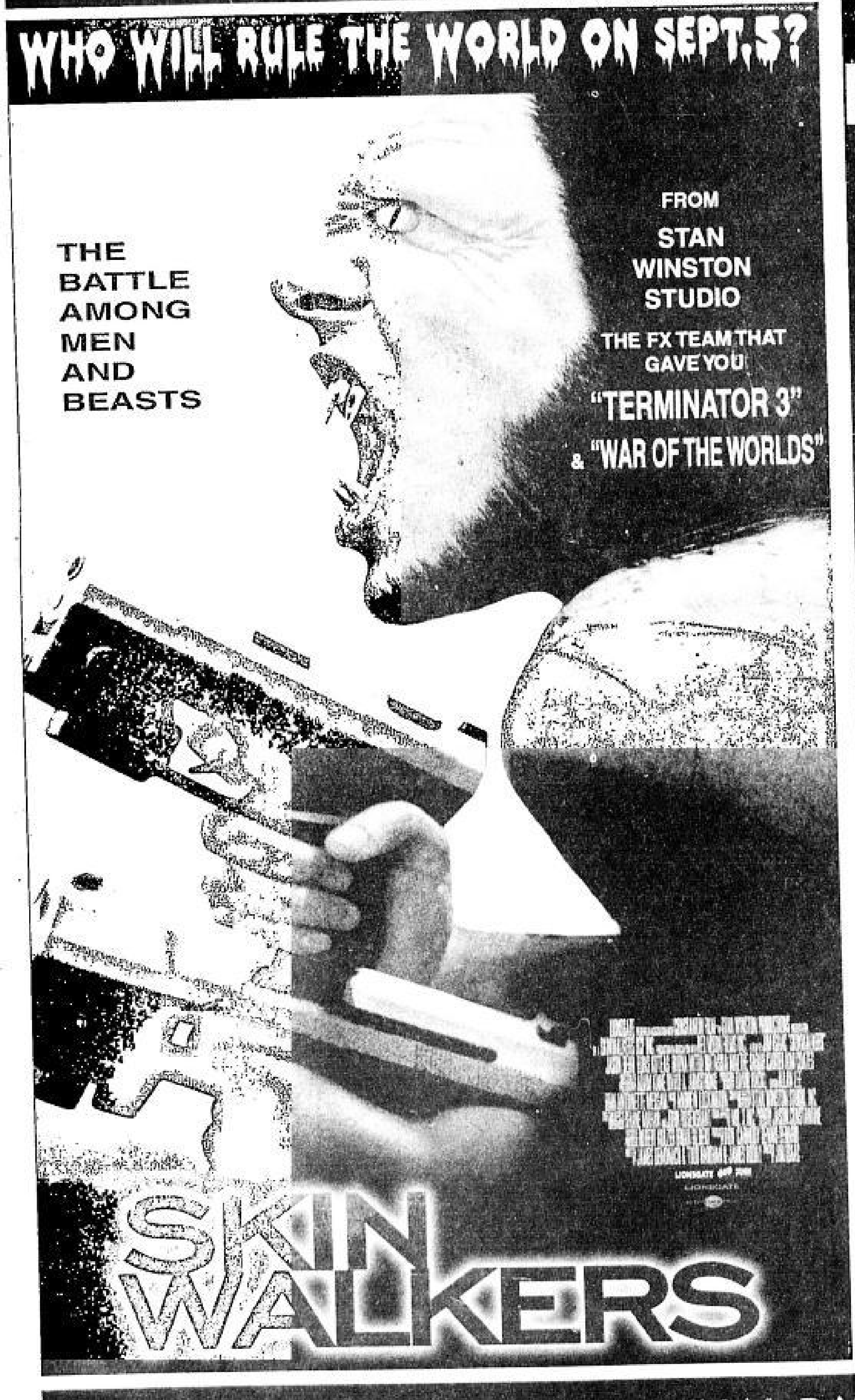
Any advocacies?

I really like Habitat For Humanity. I think they're a great organization. I volunteered for them a couple of times. What I like about their organization is that you see the progress they make by the houses they build.

I hope you get to work in the Philippines someday.

It would be very interesting to go to the Philippines.

Suzi Entrata-Abrera hosts TV programs on GMA 7.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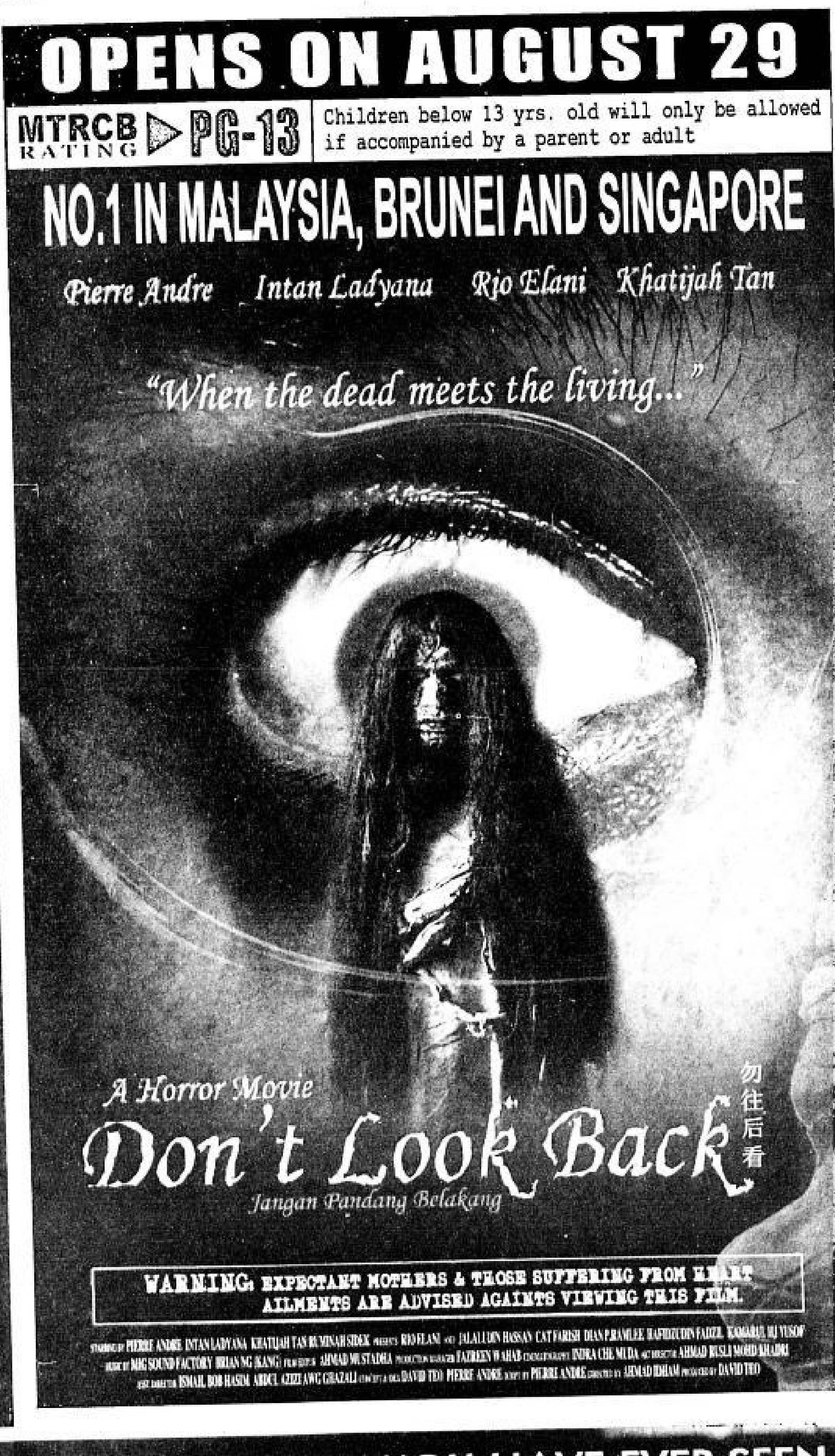
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FROM DINO DE LAURENTIIS THE PRODUCER OF KING KONG
THE LAST LEGION
OPENS AUG.29

'Entourage' trivia contest

ADRIAN GRENIER

CHEER FACTOR

WHAT ROLE IS VINCENT CHASE DREAMING OF PLAYING IN the movie "Medellin"?

Followers of the hit HBO comedy series "Entourage" (Mondays, 11 p.m.) can win exclusive Entourage T-shirts by answering this simple question. Answers and contact details may be e-mailed to ph_hbopromo@yahoo.com.ph. Prizes will be given to the first 10 respondents with correct answers.

Based loosely on the Hollywood experience of executive producer, Mark Wahlberg, "Entourage" takes a look at the life of Hollywood star Vincent Chase (Adrian Grenier) and his entourage.

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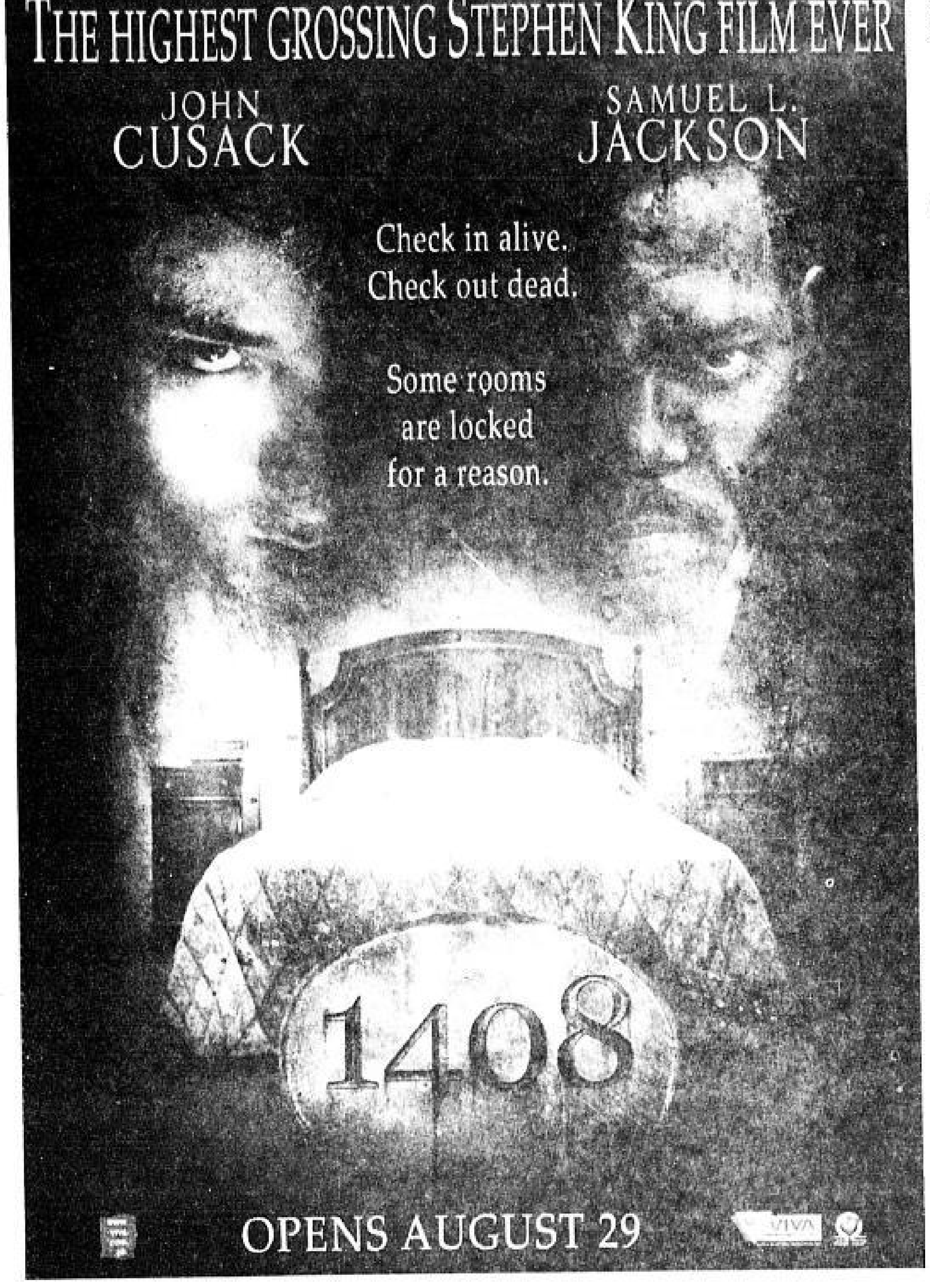
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VIVA

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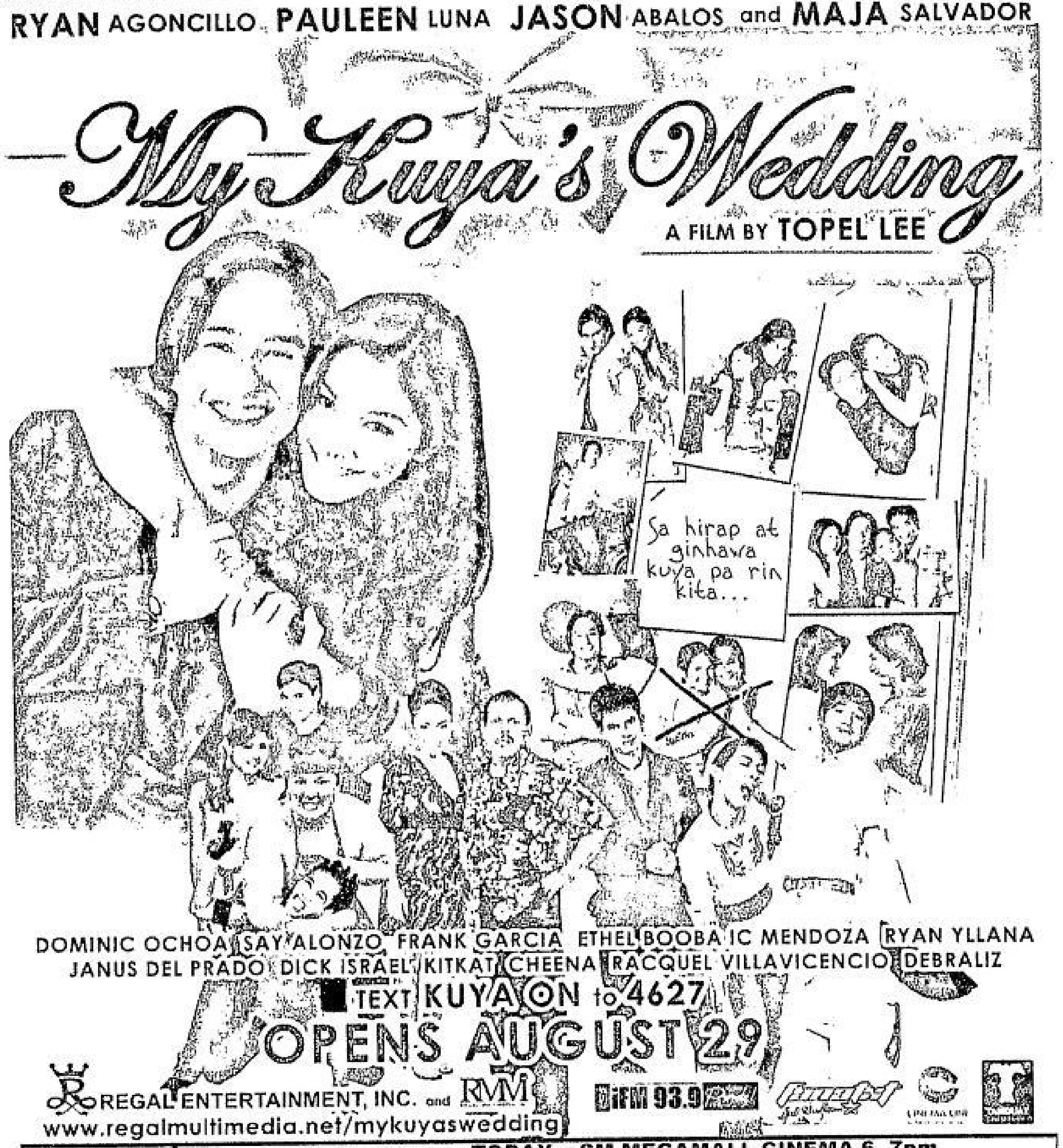
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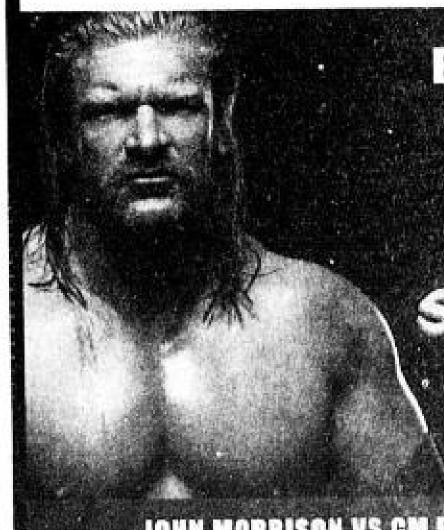

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RISE 6:40 / 9:00	BOURNE ULTIMATUM 12:10 / 2:35 / 5:00 / 7:25 / 9:50	A LOVE STORY 12:00 / 2:30 / 5:00 / 7:30 / 10:00	EVAN ALMIGHTY 12:20 / 2:30 / 4:40 / 6:50 / 9:00

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5:00	Persepolis		

AliMALL 5

1	RUSH HOUR 12:05 / 2:15 / 4:25 / 6:35 / 8:45	2	EVAN ALMIGHTY 11:45 / 2:00 / 4:15 / 6:30 / 8:40	3	BOURNE ULTIMATUM 1:20 / 3:45 / 6:10 / 8:35
4	SIGNOS 12:15 R3 / 1:45 / 3:55 / 6:05 / 8:15	5	A LOVE STORY 1:00 / 3:30 / 6:00 / 8:30		DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

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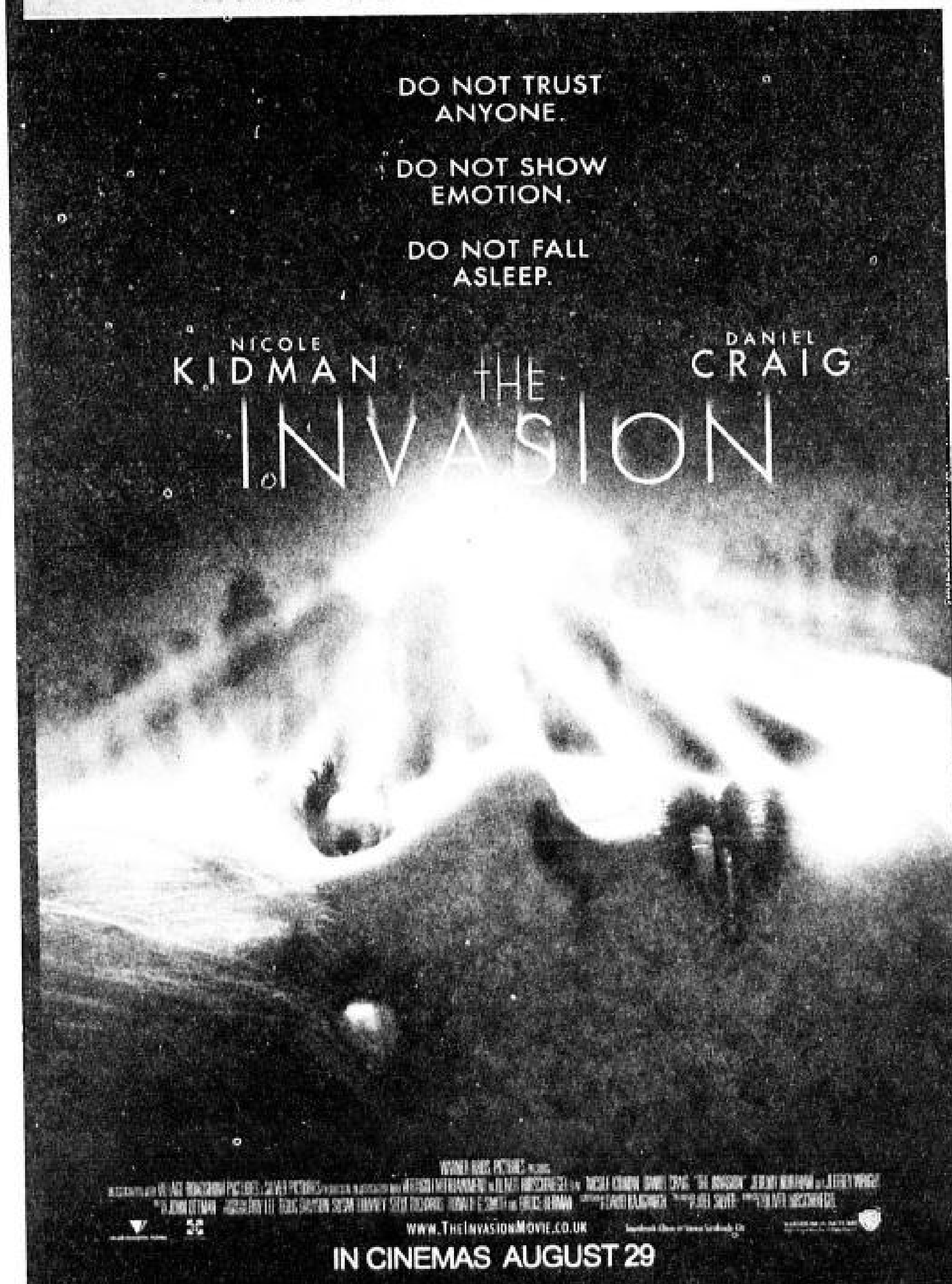
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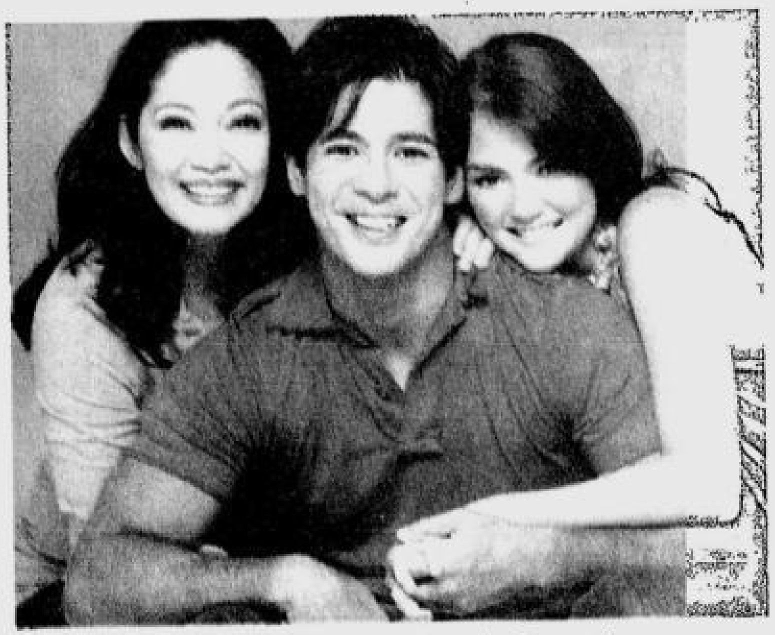

MARICEL Soriano, Aga Muhlach and Angelica Panganiban

Why 'A Love Story' deserves its success

By Jayson B. Brizuela
Contributor

REVIEW

LIKE MOST LOVE STORIES, Star Cinema's "A Love Story" starts out as a casual meeting of strangers—the movie and the viewer. There's an inkling that things could go well, but there are no expectations. Not much happens at first but, somewhere down the road, something good develops.

Ingredients

Helmed by Maryo J. Delos Reyes, "A Love Story" has all the ingredients of a great Pinoy movie that might compare with a Hollywood flick.

First, there's the simple but contemporary plot. Ian Montes (Aga Muhlach) is a successful, middle-aging professional torn between two loves—Joanne, (Maricel Soriano), a doctor who has the makings of a perfect wife; and Karyn (Angelica Panganiban), a young, confident, and flirty flight attendant.

Then there's Delos Reyes' lifelike treatment of the material—something not lost on the otherwise indifferent yuppie audience that trooped to the cinemas. At its core, the movie is a crowd-pleaser, but what makes it really work is the very realistic treatment. Many times one forgets that this is just a movie, and these are just actors. Delos Reyes is able to speckle the movie with great moments.

Soriano gives the most consistent and compelling performance. Perennial heartthrob Muhlach also does a noteworthy job. It's like watching one's favorite boxer in a bout—he wins some rounds, loses others.

The real challenge was tossed in Panganiban's direction. Many initially deemed her too young to be cast opposite Muhlach. But she acquits herself really well.

In the end, the pairing does not only make sense; it comes across as a familiar, even beautiful, slice of life.

The support cast was, likewise, well-thought out. Dante Rivero's turn as Ian's father, ravaged by Alzheimer's, is so good, one empathizes with every family coping with the disease.

Then there's Mark Gil's outstanding portrayal of the remorseful and humbled ex-wife (Joanne) beater. Gil makes great use of his few minutes of exposure.

Midway through, the movie throws a major curveball—the romantic movie equivalent of the surprise ending in "The Sixth Sense" and "The Others." All of a sudden, one is lost, and wondering whether the director and the editor followed the same script.

Biggest triumph

Evidently, this looked very good on paper. Translated onscreen, though, it gives the viewer pause. Delos Reyes jumbles up the continuity some more in the final stretch. This unconventional storytelling may confuse viewers used to straightforward narrating styles. But ultimately, it is one of the film's biggest triumphs, because it lifts the moviegoers' level of understanding and appreciation.

Yam Laranas is glad nobody calls him 'Direk' in Toronto

WHY ARE Carlos Leon, Yam Laranas and Jesse Bradford not smiling? Because, as Yam captioned this photo on his blog, "(You) can't smile (when you are) scared."

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—"I'M SO HAPPY THAT NObody calls me 'Direk,'" **Yam Laranas** declared via e-mail from the Toronto set of "The Echo." "I hated that term even when I was in Manila."

The director was responding to our e-mail where we teasingly addressed him as "Direk" after we learned that being called by that term, Philippine show biz slang for "director," was a pet peeve of Yam's. A reader of the filmmaker's blog asked him, "What do they call you on the (Toronto) set, Yam or Direk Yam?" He replied, "Just Yam."

Now that Yam is shooting the remake of "Sigaw," produced by Regal Entertainment, he is making history. A Hollywood remake of a Filipino movie is one for the books. That Hollywood allowed a Filipino director with no American filmmaking experience to also direct the remake is a first too.

"I'm on the set right now," Yam reported. "We are doing a scene with **Jesse (Bradford)** inside a parole office."

When we asked how the filming, which began last Aug. 13 has been so far, he answered. "The shoot has been very, very good—on time and on schedule."

As to how different an experience this is for him, Yam wrote, "There's obviously a huge difference in shooting a Hollywood feature. It's an extended commercial shoot. The strict 12-hour, five-day work week is admirable."

"We have a great cast and they all rock! Jesse and Amelia (Warner) are both easygoing. No divas on the set here," he enthused.

... plus, Madonna's ex and father of her child joins the cast of 'Echo'

When we inquired about **Iza Calzado**, who is reprising her role in the remake, Yam revealed, "She was here last week to shoot one scene with **Carlos Leon**. They got along well. She's returning tomorrow (Aug. 23) and will stay all the way till we wrap. She'll have scenes with **Jesse, Amelia** and **Kevin Durand**—who will play her policeman husband."

Carlos Leon, as in Carlos Leon, the dude who was Madonna's ex-lover? Yam said yes and added that he is indeed "the father of Lourdes, Madonna's daughter."

When we asked further about Carlos, who plays the boss of Jesse in an auto repair shop, the filmmaker said, "Carlos is a very, very good actor. He respects the notes I give him."

Kevin Durand, on the other hand, is in the new **Russell Crowe-Christian Bale** western movie, "3:10 to Yuma" and played Red in the blockbuster comedy, "Wild Hogs."

A newcomer, **Jamie Bloch**, plays the girl role tackled by **Ella Guevarra** in "Sigaw." Also in the cast are **Louise Linton** and **Jayne Eastwood.**

Yam gladly shared this "Filipino connection" anecdote: "We shot in an auto shop for two days straight. It's owned and operated by **Rolly Orbeta**, a Pinoy from Bulacan. He ended up as one of our extras working as a mechanic with Jesse. Later, when I was watching the dailies of that scene, I saw something familiar. It was a can of SkyFlakes crackers."

We asked Yam if he has experienced some good-natured ribbing about his peculiar Filipino nickname. "They actually tease me about William because my director's chair on the first few days read: William 'Yam' Laranas—Director. I told them only my mom and dad call me William. It now reads 'Yam Laranas—Director.'"

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com and read his blog, "The Nepales Report," on www.inquirerbloggers.net/nepalesreport.

ELLIOTT YAMIN

Manila set to welcome Elliott

NO LESS THAN STEVIE WONDER, guest-coaching on "American Idol," told Elliott Yamin that he should be a pro singer.

Exactly a year later, the AI Season 5 second runner-up released his self-titled first album under Sony BMG's independent label, Red Distribution.

In a telecon interview, Elliott told INQUIRER Entertainment last year: "Before this contest, I was just starting to find my way as a person. I've since become confident. I can honestly say now that I know what I'll be doing in the next few years."

Elliott's exit from "AI" had brought judge Paula Abdul to tears. Even hard-to-please Simon Cowell had praised him for being "potentially the best male vocalist ever on the show."

His album started off at No. 3 on the Billboard 200 chart. It was the best-ever debut for an independent artist in the history of the industry magazine.

In the interview with INQUIRER, Elliott said he would be "forever in debt" to "Idol."

And not surprisingly, he said that the greatest lesson he learned from the show had come from Stevie Wonder.

"He told all of us contestants how important it was to sing every song like it was our own, and to connect with the audience," Elliott explained.

His Filipino fans will soon find out how far he has heeded Stevie's advice when he comes to the country next month for a series of concerts in Ayala Malls nationwide: TriNoma on Sept. 21; Glorietta, Sept. 22; Market! Market!, Sept. 23; Ayala Center Cebu, Sept. 26; and Alabang Town Center, Sept. 28.

Kathryn Fatima Reyes

On her birthday, Carmina asks to speak with Josh Hartnett

RUSHES

CARMINA VILLAROEL made a not-so-simple wish for her recent birthday—to talk on the cell phone with Hollywood heartthrob Josh Hartnett, who was shooting in Mount Diwalwal at the time.

The wish was granted, thanks to a staffer in the movie production. According to an eyewitness, when the "Sis" cohost heard Josh's voice, she let loose quite a shriek. We wonder, what was the reaction of Carmina's partner Zoren Legaspi? What about her ex-hubby Rustom Padilla's?

New career

Speaking of Rustom, he insists he would rather be known "not as a gay actor, but as an actor who happens to be gay." In any case, leading-man roles are not forthcoming soon. So Rustom has found a new career, as assistant director. He is set to work with award-winning filmmaker Chito Roño for the horror flick "Dagaw."

Ryan's gain

Speaking of "Dagaw," Dingdong Dantes reportedly turned down the movie, which also top-bills Richard Gutierrez. The producer approached Ryan Agoncillo, who immediately accepted. Ryan is also making "Sakal, Sakali, Saklolo." Plus, he recently agreed to do a gay role in a movie with Vilma Santos, under Olivia Lamasan.

RUSTOM PADILLA

Kismet?

The name of Pauleen Luna's character in the romantic-comedy "My Kuya's Wedding" is Heidi Gatchalian. She is being romantically linked with Valenzuela Mayor Sherwin Gatchalian. A production insider insists this wasn't planned.

The Angel problem

On Friday, Regal Films' Lily Monteverde sat down with Star Cinema's Malou Santos to iron out the Angel Locsin problem. Apparently, Angel has a live exclusive contract with Regal, but still inked a deal with Star Cinema for a Valentine movie with Piolo Pascual. Regal is reportedly eyeing Judy Ann Santos and Ryan Agoncillo to replace Angel and Dennis in one planned movie.

Real deal

According to an insider, the Maja Salvador-Jason Abalos partnership is only for the big screen. Away from the cameras, Maja has allegedly become close to UD4 dance partner John Prats after touring Canada together. Then again, isn't John notorious for courting many girls at a time?

Kudos

Congratulations to broadcasters Ces Drilon, Pinky Webb and Willard Cheng who earned for ABS-CBN's late night news program, "Bandila," a nomination for the 59th International Emmy Awards. "Bandila" is one of four nominees in the news category for its report, "The Subic Rape Case Promulgation: Guilty!"

CARMINA VILLAROEL

RUDY ESPERAS

The report consisted of Ces' interview with rape victim "Nicole," Pinky's coverage of the custody and departure of the suspects, and Willard's interview with the panel of prosecutors.

It is the first nomination for the Philippines.

***

Top of the tabloids

The top show biz stories in local tabloids this week. (And why we are moved, if we are moved.)

•Katrina *kuntento sa* GMAAC.

•Ai Ai *nag*-sorry *sa* GMA. (She doesn't share Katrina's point of view.)

•Katrina Halili *iyak nang iyak.*

•Cristine Reyes, *gustong tikman ni* DJ Mo. (*Ay, 'kala namin,* network *lang.*)

•Cristine, *ayaw nang tapusin ang kanyang* launching movie. (*Kasali ba si* Mo?)

•Bong ends career as TV comedian.

•Bong Revilla: "I'm a good boy now."

•Sam Milby, Anne Curtis *nag*-break *kahit hindi naging mag*-on. (That's a good one.)

•Sharon Cuneta *gustong maging alalay ni* Vilma Santos. (We enjoyed watching Ate Vi in "Deal or No Deal.")

•Edu Manzano to donate P400,000 to anti-porn campaign. (Especially when Kuya Edu came out to dance with Ate Vi. For a while there, we forgot the host.)

About face

•Gretchen, *di pa kayang harapin si* John Estrada. (*E kung talikuran na lang kaya?*)

•Tintin Bersola, *nagpaparamdam sa* GMA 7

•Tin-tin, *di raw nagpaparamdam sa* GMA 7. (*Hehehe.*)

•Gerald Anderson, *may diperensiya sa ulo, mata.* (Hello, Kim?)

•Aga, Richard *o* Boyet *sa* Villar film bio. (Boyet! Aga!)

•Karylle barred from "Marimar" set.

•Ruffa: a masochist?

•Annabelle Rama, *suko na kay* Ruffa.

The week's tabloid darling

•Angel Locsin, *bibinyagan ni* Piolo.

•Angel, *patuloy na dinidedma ng* fans!

•*Pag*-welcome *kay* Angel, *tinaasan ng kilay ng mga maldito, malditang* Kapamilya.

•*Kampo ni* Angel, *puro reklamo sa* Dos? *Lumolobo na ba ang ulo?*

•Mother Lily, *may alas* vs Angel.

•*Lahat ng* shows *sa* ABS-CBN *na nilalabasan ni* Angel, *mino*-monitor *ng kalaban.*

•Angel-Piolo love team *masyadong pilit.*

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2007

Republic of the Philippines
Municipality of Panaon
Province of Misamis Occidental

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Date: **August 26, 2007**
Contract ID No.: **SP-134-IN-01**
World Bank Loan No.: **4446PH**

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of Local Government Finance and Development and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the ***Construction of 2 Storey 8 Classroom School Building.*** Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The ***Municipality of Panaon, Province of Misamis Occidental*** invites sealed bids from eligible sources for the ***Construction of 1 unit 2 storey 8 Classroom Building and 1 unit Home Economics Building.***
3. Bidding documents may be purchased starting ***August 27, 2007 at the BAC Secretariat, SB Session Hall, Panaon Municipal Hall, Panaon, Misamis Occidental*** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Four Thousand Pesos (Php 4,000.00)*** or its equivalent in a freely-convertible currency, for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ***ninety (90) days*** after bid opening and must be accompanied by bid security of ***Two Hundred Sixteen Thousand Pesos (Php 216,000.00)*** in a form of cash, certified check, bank guarantee issued by commercial banks or its equivalent in a convertible currency and shall be delivered to the ***BAC Secretariat*** at the ***Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall, Panaon, Misamis Occidental on or before September 25 at 10:00 a.m.*** at which time they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. The Bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine its responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during post qualification. The **Estimated Project Cost** for the subproject is ***Eight Million Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Nine pesos and 28/100 (Php 8,650,729.28).***
6. A pre-bid conference will be held at ***10:00 a.m. on September 13, 2007 at Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall, Municipality of Panaon, Misamis Occidental.***

(Sgd.) **SERVANDO L. AMPARO, JR.**
BAC Chairman

(PDI – August 26, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
National Electrification Administration
Needed Immediately

GENERAL MANAGER

for
Aklan Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AKELCO)
Lezo, Aklan

Qualifications:

- 30-50 YEARS OLD
- Male or Female
- Graduate of Business Administration, Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, ECE), Accounting, Finance, Management or Behavioral Science
- With Master's Degree or Post-Graduate Degree preferred
- Must have at least five (5) years managerial experience in a utility-related business enterprise
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to relocate with his/her family in Aklan

Starting Salary: P35,000.00

Application forms and additional information may be obtained from the Institutional Development Department, 6th Floor, NEA Building, NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City
Deadline for submission of application form is on September 11, 2007.

(Sgd.) EDITA S. BUENO
Administrator

Republic of the Philippines
National Electrification Administration
Needed Immediately

GENERAL MANAGER

for
Guimaras Electric Cooperative, Inc. (GUIMELCO)
Jordan, Guimaras

Qualifications:

- 30-50 YEARS OLD
- Male or Female
- Graduate of Business Administration, Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, ECE), Accounting, Finance, Management or Behavioral Science
- With Master's Degree or Post-Graduate Degree preferred
- Must have at least five (5) years managerial experience in a utility-related business enterprise
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to relocate with his/her family in Guimaras

Starting Salary: P30,000.00

Application forms and additional information may be obtained from the Institutional Development Department, 6th Floor, NEA Building, NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City
Deadline for submission of application form is on September 11, 2007.

(Sgd.) EDITA S. BUENO
Administrator

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
In cooperation with
H.E.A.R.T. FOUNDATION INC.

"PERITONEAL DIALYSIS TRAINING-WORKSHOP"

When : November 20, 2007
Time : 8:00 - 5:00 PM
Venue : Dr. Avenilo P. Aventura Hall (formerly MAB Hall)
Reg. Date : Oct. 1 - Nov. 18, 2007
Reg. Fee : P1,000.00

For inquiries please call:

Ms. Raquel Tejada
925-2401 loc. 2474
Ms. Grace Caamic / Ms. Lissa Ogayon
Mr. Marion Palencia
925-2401 loc. 3828

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 929-6626 to 29 • 929-6633 to 35
926-7041 to 43 • 929-6252 • 929-1669

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Second Land Administration and Management Project (LAMP2)
Loan No. 7298-PH

Leyte One-Stop-Shop (OSS) Independent Monitor

The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a Loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) toward the cost of implementing the Second Land Administration and Management Project (LAMP2), and intends to apply part of the loan proceeds to payments under the contract for the Leyte One-Stop-Shop Independent Monitor.

The objective of the assignment is to monitor the performance of the Leyte One-Stop-Shop against the service standards and document the quality of service, and/or user satisfaction with the services. The services of an independent monitor is deemed most critical at this stage to ensure transparency and avoid any perceived bias in the interpretation of the results.

The Monitor should have at least five (5) years of experience in the conduct of evaluation studies, primary surveys, statistical analyses, and an advanced degree in the field of Economics, Statistics or other relevant fields in Social Science. He/she must have proven tract record in designing client based studies, conducting quality research, independent analysis of results, excellent ability to prepare reports, and preferably familiar with the culture and dialect in the locality. The Monitor will be backstopped by two (2) Research Assistants preferably with degrees in Community Development, Economics, or other related fields in the Social Sciences. They must have at least three (3) years of relevant working experience in the conduct of surveys, program assessment, and has a working knowledge in statistics. Ability to speak the local dialect and familiarity in the region is a must. Preference will be given to Consultants based in Leyte. Copy of the detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) may be obtained from the LAMP2-PCO.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) now calls for the submission of Expressions of Interest from potential Individual Consultants for the OSS Independent Monitor. Interested Individual Consultants must submit along with his/her curriculum vitae the names and curriculum vitae of two (2) competent Research Assistants of his/her choice. These can be sent by hand, through mail, or facsimile on or before 5:00 p.m. of August 15, 2007 to the address below.

The Executive Director
Second Land Administration and Management Project – Project Coordination Office
(LAMP2-PCO)
3/F FMB Annex C Building (formerly SECAL Building),
DENR Visayas Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 928-1197, (632) 925-2328
Fax No. (632) 928-1195
Email address: lamp@denr.gov.ph

(Sgd.) **ANALIZA REBUELTA-TEH**
Assistant Secretary and BAC-FAPs Chair

(PDI - Aug. 26, 2007)

IMMIGRATION / CITIZENSHIP IN NEW ZEALAND

ATTENTION: NURSES, RADIOGRAPHERS, TEACHERS, ENGINEERS, HORTICULTURISTS, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, ACCOUNTANTS, FOOD TECHNOLOGISTS, IT PROFESSIONALS, CHEFS, DENTAL ASSISTANTS, VETERINARIANS, UNIVERSITY LECTURERS, TRADES PEOPLE, ETC. (FULL LISTING WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE SEMINAR)

Due to the severe long- and short-term skill shortages in New Zealand, MRS. CECILLE CHARNLEY, Managing Director of PHIL-NZ HUMAN RESOURCES LIMITED, cordially invites ALL Professionals and Trades People to attend one of her seminars on these topics. Suitably qualified applicants in all professions and trades can gain Work Permits to enter New Zealand legally, upon which they can apply for Permanent Residency and ultimately New Zealand Citizenship. Private consultation and assessment of documents also available after attending the seminar.

FINANCE OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO SUITABLE, HIGHLY QUALIFIED, SELECTED APPLICANTS.

SEMINAR DATES: Saturday, 01 September 2007
Sunday, 02 September 2007

(NOTE: YOU ONLY NEED TO ATTEND 1 SEMINAR. CHOOSE WHICH DATE, PLEASE.)

TIME: 9am to 12noon (sharp)

VENUE: Sanctuario de San Antonio Parish
Meeting Rooms 3 and 4
McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City

COST: PhP1,000 for singles, PhP1,800 for couples (Seminar)
PhP2,000 for singles, PhP2,800 for couples (Seminar, Private Consultation & Assessment of Documents.)

*******REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED DURING THE SEMINAR*******

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For booking and payment details, please call Mrs. Cecille Charnley directly on her Mob. Ph. 0918-361-5005. NO TEXT MESSAGES, PLS.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
Center for Health Development IV-B (MIMAROPA)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Public Bidding for Medical Equipments

The **Office of the Vice President of the Philippines** with the assistance of **Center for Health Development IV-B (MIMAROPA)**, through the **"PCSO CHARITY FUND" PCSO Board Resolution No. 038, Series of 2007, Jan. 17, 2007 and No. 161, Series of 2007, March 14, 2007** intends to apply the sum of **P 26,000,000.00** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for **Medical Equipments.** Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The **Center for Health Development IV-B (MIMAROPA)** now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for **Medical Equipments** to be procured.

Delivery of the Goods is required **from October to November, 2007.** The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **Center for Health Development IV-B (MIMAROPA)** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours from Monday to Friday at **8:00am to 5:00pm.**

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of **Five Thousand Pesos Only (P5,000.00).** The method of payment shall be in **Cash.** The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The **Center for Health Development IV-B (MIMAROPA)** shall hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **August 31, 2007, 10:00am (Thursday) at the Fernando Generic's Hall, CHD IV-B (MIMAROPA) Project 4, Quezon City.**

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before **September 13, 2007, 10:00am (Thursday).** All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the form of cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft/guarantee confirmed by a reputable local bank or in case of a foreign bank, or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a reputable commercial bank or in the case of irrevocable letter of credit issued by a foreign bank, the same shall be confirmed or authenticated by a reputable local bank corresponding to one percent (1%), bank guarantee corresponding to one and a half percent (1 ½%), and surety bond callable upon demand issued by a reputable surety or insurance company corresponding to two and a half percent (2 ½%) or any combination thereof and foreign government guarantee corresponding to one hundred percent (100%) of the approved budget of the contract and in the amount of **P 26,000,000.00** or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on **September 13, 2007, 10:00am (Thursday),** at the **Fernando Generic's Hall.** Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.

Submission of Eligibility requirements and Receipt of bids will not be later than 10:00am of the specified dates scheduled.

The Center for Health Development IV-B (MIMAROPA) reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

For further inquiries please contact the following personnel:

VALERIANO V. LOPEZ Jr., MD, MPH
BAC – Chairman
Center for Health Development IV-B
(MIMAROPA)
QMMC, Cmpd., Project 4, Quezon City
Tel/Fax # 911-50-38

or

Mr. ROMULO F. CAYABYAB Jr.
BAC-Secretariat
Tel/Fax # 995-08-20

(Sgd.) **VALERIANO V. LOPEZ, JR., MD., MPH., MHA., CSEE.**
BAC Chairman

(PDI - Aug. 26, 2007)

SOUTH COTABATO II ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
(SOCOTECO II)

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The South Cotabato II Electric Cooperative, Inc. (SOCOTECO II) is inviting all interested bidders to Pre-qualify and to Bid for the following:

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2. **CONDUCTOR BARE WIRE # 1/0 ACSR – 60,000 MTRS IN REEL**
3. **CONDUCTOR BARE WIRE # 6 ACSR – 60,000 MTRS IN BUNDLE**

To be qualified, Bidder must have fully complied with the following:

Accreditation Requirements
A. Company Profile
B. Business Registration
C. BIR/VAT Certificate of Registration
D. Business Permit
E. Latest Income Tax Return (ITR)
F. List of Clients for a period of three (3) years

SUBMISSION TO THE ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE
Bid and Award Chairperson – VIRGILIO B. OCTAVIO

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF REQUIREMENTS – SEPTEMBER 15, 2007.

(Sgd.) **VIRGILIO B. OCTAVIO**
BAC Chairperson

Noted by:
(Sgd.) **Engr. RODOLFO G. OCAT**
General Manager

SOUTH COTABATO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE II
JOSE CATOLICO SR. AVE., LAGAO, GEN. SANTOS CITY
TEL. NO. 552-4313, 552-4271; FAX NO. 552-4856;
E-MAIL: http: II Socoteco 2.com/index.php

(PDI–August 25 & 26, 2007)

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2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
In cooperation with

H.E.A.R.T. FOUNDATION INC.

"RENAL TRAINING UPDATE"

When : August 28-29, 2007
Venue : Dr. Avenilo P. Aventura Hall (formerly MAB Hall)
Reg. Date : July 30 - Aug. 22, 2007
Reg. Fee : P3,000.00

For inquiries please call:

Ms. Raquel Tejada
925 2401 loc. 2474
Ms. Grace Caamic / Ms. Lissa Ogayon
Mr. Marion Palencia
925-2401 loc. 3828

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LEGAL NOTICE

Extrajudicial settlement among his heirs of Nicanor Julius A. Abad who died 11 Aug 2005 before Notary Public Atty Socrates G. Macaranas Doc No. 57; Page No. 12; Book No. 47; Series of 2007
(PDI-Aug 26, Sept 2&9, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late NAPOLEON M. CADIENTE was extrajudicially settled with waiver among his heirs as per Doc. No. 319; Page No. 65; Book No III; Series of 2007 before Notary Public Atty. Bella Flor P. Geromo of Parañaque City.
(PDI Aug. 12, 19 & 26, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late LUCIANO S. RAMIREZ was extrajudicially settled by his heirs before Notary Public Atty Chester Ogsimer of Paranaque City per Doc No 101; Page No 22 ;Book No I; Series of 2007
(PDI-Aug 26, Sept 2&9, 2007)

Wanted Immediately

RCMagno Group of Companies — JETT

MARKETING EXECUTIVES
(ME/CE/IE/SANITARY ENGINEER/ARCHITECT)
With professional experience in hot water system design, plumbing layout, construction, operations and maintenance
Preferably with AutoCAD/drafting background
With keen interest in selling and dealing with people
Must be resident of the areas indicated below
Possession of driver's license is an advantage

DRAFTSMAN-CAFA
(HEAD OFFICE)
Male, Single, not more than 30 years old
At least 2nd year college BS Architecture with background in AutoCAD and experience in product designing
With at least 1 year working experience
JETT WATER HEATER CO., INC.
The Hot Water Heating Systems Specialist
Unit 3 Bona Condominium, 545 EDSA. Cubao, QC
jettwaterheaterphils@yahoo.com
Head Office 723-0032
Baguio (074) 442-2546
Cebu (032) 346-4536
Iloilo (033) 320-4976
Davao (082) 299-2082
For provincial applicants please contact our branch offices

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- With good communication skills
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Interested applicants may send their resumé & recent 2x2 photo to:

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27th Flr. Raffles Bldg., Emerald Ave.,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Contact Person: FRENCH ESPLANADA
Tel. Nos. 917-2749/917-2750
Email your resumé: telefonicaphil@yahoo.com

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ANNABELLEE C. SINGZON consisting of her money at the Meralco Savings and Loan Association (MESALA)divided equal among her Five Children agre each of their share divided equally shall belong to Egberto Q. Singzon Entered into and ratified before Atty Romeo T. Telpo of Pasig City as per doc# 122,page# 25 Book #XV Series of 2007.(PDI-Aug 19,26&Sept.2'07)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ROBERTO P. OTAYZA consisting of all shares of capital stocks at FEU,FERN REALTY CORPORATION as well as unclaimed cash/stocks devidends were extrajudicially settled by the heirs as Per Doc#204 Page#41 Book#VI Series of 2007 by Notary Public Atty. Andrew V. Ferrer of Cainta Rizal(PDI-Aug.19,26&Sept.2,2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ALBERTO MORA who died on Oct. 6, 1999 was extrajudicially settled on Aug. 24, 2007 per Doc. 450 Book VII Series of 2007 notarial register of Notary Public Dulcisimo G. Hinanay Jr. of Quezon City (PDI-Aug.26,Sept 2 & 9, 2007)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given of the loss of PETRON CORPORATION stock certificates issued to Edmund Yu Chua under stock certificate nos. 129867 & 1158355 with total no. of 2,100 shares. Should no one contest on or before September 10, 2007, new stock certificates will issued. (PDI-Aug.26,Sept.2&9,2007)

Notice is hereby given that the following Phil. Long Distance Telephone (PLDT) Common Stock Certificates has been reported lost: MFO 180237 for 6 shares under the name of JUAN MIGUEL M. VAZQUEZ; MFO 180235 for 13 shares and MFO 231528 for 4 shares both under the name of MA. VICTORIA M. VAZQUEZ. If no contest received, new stock certificates will be issued. (PDI Aug. 19,26 & Sept. 2, 2007)

PERSONAL

Dear Holy Spirit Thank You from Gemma P. Santos

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue,
Pasig City, Philippines

INVITATION FOR BIDS
Reprinting and delivery of EASE Modules

Date : August 24, 2007
Loan No.: 1654-PHI: Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP)
IFB No.: ADB-REM-SEDIP-2007

1. The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Education (DepED) has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of the Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP), and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contracts for the **Reprinting and Delivery of Effective/Alternative Secondary Education (EASE) Modules.**
2. The DepED through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) III now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the Reprinting and Delivery of the following:
    - 2.1 Lot 1: EASE Modules for First Year: 106,115 copies
    - 2.2 Lot 2: EASE Modules for Second Year: 60,318 copies
    - 2.3 Lot 3: EASE Modules for Third Year: 86,009 copies
    - 2.4 Lot 4: EASE Modules for Fourth Year: 107,232 copies
3. Limited International Bidding (LIB) will be conducted in accordance with **ADB's Single Stage: One Envelope bidding procedure** and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries. A bidder may opt to bid on any or all of the lots required.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from DepEd and inspect the Bidding Documents from **9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. starting August 29, 2007** at the SEDIP Procurement Division, Room 504, 5th Floor, Bonifacio Building, DepED Complex, Pasig City, Philippines, at Tel. Nos. 632-0456 / 637-5833 or at Fax No. 636-1352.
5. The Bidding Documents in the English language may be purchased by interested eligible bidders to the address given in paragraph 5 upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Php 1,000.00. The method of payment will be cash, cashier's check, manager's check, or certified check.
6. Bids must be delivered to Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal I Building, DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines at or before **10:00 a.m. on September 18, 2007.** All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of 2.0% of the total bid amount, in Philippine peso or in any freely convertible currency of eligible countries. Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the given address, time and date.
7. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bid conference shall be conducted on **September 4, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.** at the same address indicated in paragraph 5.
8. The DepED reserves the right to accept and reject any or all bids and to annul the bidding process at any time prior to award of Contract(s) without incurring any liability to the affected bidders and to waive any minor informality or non-conformity in a bid which does not constitute a material devaluation, provided such waiver will not prejudice or affect competitive ranking of any bid.
9. The Department of Education will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.

(Sgd.) **TERESITA G. INCIONG**
Assistant Secretary and Chairman,
Bids and Awards Committee III

(PDI – August 26, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
Municipality of Guinayangan
Province of Quezon

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Date: August 26, 2007
Contract ID No.: SP-136-IN-01
World Bank Loan No.: 4446PH

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of Local Government Finance and Development and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the ***Construction of Guinayangan Municipal Health Center.*** Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.*
2. The ***Municipality of Guinayangan, Province of Quezon*** invites sealed bids from eligible sources for the ***Construction of Guinayangan Municipal Health Center with a total Floor Area of 468 sq.m.***
3. Bidding documents may be purchased starting ***August 28, 2007 during office hours, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Office of the BAC Chairman, MPDC Office, Municipal Fish Port, Guinayangan, Quezon*** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00)*** or its equivalent in a freely-convertible currency, for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of ***ninety (90) days*** after bid opening and must be accompanied by bid security of ***Two Hundred Five Thousand Pesos (Php 205,000.00)*** in a form of cash, certified check, bank guarantee issued by commercial banks and shall be delivered to the ***BAC Chairman Municipal Session Hall, Guinayangan, Quezon*** on or before ***September 27, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.*** at which time they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. The Bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post - qualification stage in order to finally determine its responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during post qualification. The Estimated Project Cost for the subproject is ***Eight Million One Hundred Eighty Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Five Pesos and 73/100 (Php 8,180,535.73)***
6. A pre-bid conference will be held at ***10:00 a.m. on September 13, 2007 at the Municipal Session Hall, Guinayangan, Quezon.***

(Sgd.) **RUSSEL C. NARTE**
BAC Chairman

(PDI - Aug. 26, 2007)

Department of Health
BAGUIO GENERAL HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER
Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 442-4216 loc. 219; Fax No. (074) 442-3909

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The **BAGUIO GENERAL HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER** (BGHMC), through the General Appropriations Act 2007 intends to apply the sum of

85 million	being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for Supply and Delivery of **DRUGS AND MEDICINES**.
40 million	being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for Supply and Delivery of **MEDICAL SUPPLIES, LABORATORY SUPPLIES & REAGENTS**.
18 million	being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for Supply and Delivery of **MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**.

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening. Contract shall commence January 1, 2008.

2. The BGHMC now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply and delivery of:
    - a. DRUGS AND MEDICINES
    - b. MEDICAL SUPPLIES
    - c. LABORATORY SUPPLIES & REAGENTS
    - d. MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The contract shall be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from **August 27 to September 6, 2007** at the **Under Five Clinic, BGHMC c/o Ms. Aurora S. Lumague,** upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of **THREE THOUSAND PESOS (Php3,000.00) per category.** The method of payment will be in cash payable to BGHMC Cashier. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
5. The BGHMC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **September 6, 2007 (Thursday), 2:00 p.m. at the BGHMC Cobalt Building, Baguio City.**
6. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the **Under Five Clinic, BGHMC on or before September 17, 2007 from 8:00-12:00 NOON.** All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in form contained in Section 22.1 of the Bid Data Sheet (BDS). Late Bids shall not be accepted.
7. Bid Opening shall be on **September 17, 2007 (Monday), 2:00 p.m. at the BGHMC Cobalt Building.** Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address above.
8. The BGHMC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.
9. For inquiries, you may call the following BAC Secretariat:

Ms. Aurora S. Lumague – (074) 442-4216 local 359 Mobile No. 09194712846
Ms. Teresa C. Fajardo – (074) 442-4216 local 226

(Sgd.) **NIEVES S. MACARANAS, MD, FPPS**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
Baguio General Hospital & Medical Center

(PDI–August 20 & 26, 2007)

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URGENT: DRAFTSMAN w/ Construction Exp. Submit Resume 5F Prrudential Life Bldg 843 Pasay Road Makati

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DBP

Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on September 10, 2007, 2:00 p.m., 12th Floor, Suite 5, Executive Lounge of the DBP Head Office, Sen.Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City for the following properties on **CASH BASIS:**

CODE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AREA (sq.m.)	LOCATION		Minimum Bid
REAL ESTATE LAGUNA					
AM-JA-45	Industrial lot (TCT No. T-231486) w/ bldg., facilities & machinery & equipment.	24,294	117 Progress Ave. corner Industry Drive, Carmelrayville Industrial Subd., Canlubang	P	120,000,000.00
ORIENTAL MINDORO					
SRMO-CP-1	Commercial-residential lot (TCT No. T-103245) with bldgs. & imp.	5,766	Morente & Cabrera St., Poblacion, Roxas	P	11,700,000.00

BIDDERS ARE REMINDED:

1. To inspect the properties to determine their actual condition before the bidding;
2. To submit in DBP's official bid form available at the AMD-Acquired Assets, Ground Floor, DBP Head Office during office hours; and
3. To be on time No bids will be accepted once unsealing of the bids commences. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions which may be imposed by the Bank.

DBP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING

For inquiries, please call telephone numbers: 892-1566 or 818-9511 locals 2117/2159/2166 for Code starting with AM and 818-9511 loc. 2244 for Code SRMO.

ASSET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

(PDI Aug. 25 & 26, 2007)

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

1. 1 pc. Brandnew unit Orion E1 Wireless GSM Gateway = $9,500.00
2. Used like new Ciscco AS5350 Voice Gateway = $6,850.00 AS5350-2E1-60-AC, comes with 2E1 and 60 Voice Channels (1) AS535-DFC-2CE1, (1) AS535-DFC-60NP.
3. 20 pcs. Slightly used Wireless Valley = $100 each
4. 16 pcs. Slightly used Telular Phonecell SX5e = $200 each

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- Salary range 13th - 20th
- Personable

FRONTLINERS / RECEPTIONIST

- College graduate
- With sales background
- Female, 23 - 30 yeras old
- Salary range 10th - 20th

HR MANAGER

- Female, 22 - 30 years old, Catholic
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- Salary range 15th - 20th

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Family Physicians' 17th midyear confab

THE PHILIPPINE Academy of Family Physicians will hold its 17th Midyear Convention (theme: "Family Medicine Specialists at the Core of Healthcare Transformation") on Sept. 6-8 at Oxford Hotel and Fontana Convention Center in Clarkfield, Pampanga. According to Dr. Romulo G. Lacson, president of the Angeles City Chapter and Dr. Reyner S. Capati, president of the Pampanga Chapter, who will host the convention, the Organizing Committee has lined up scientific lectures and tours to Mt. Pinatubo, Subic Safari Park, and vintage churches. For details, please contact Dr. Lacson, 0916-2744805, 045-8924805, or Dr. Capati, 0919-8899255, 045-9000823.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF THE PHILIPPINE NAVY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Bonifacio Naval Station, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

1. The Armed Forces of the Philippines, through the ***PN Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) CY 2007***, intends to apply the sum as stated below being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the following Philippine Navy Projects. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid Opening.

Nomenclature/Activity	Approved Budget for the Contract	Date/Time		Price of Bid Documents (non-refundable)
		Pre-Bid Conference	Deadline for Submission/ Opening of Bids	
Lot 1 Supply and Delivery of Materials for the Repair and Rehabilitation of NCSC EP Barracks for Naval Sea Systems Command	Php 3,025,000.00	310900H Aug 2007	120900H Sept 2007	Php 3,000.00
Lot 2 Supply and Delivery of Materials and other Related Services for the Repair and Maintenance of Various Transformers at Naval Base Cavite	Php2,236,000.00	030900H Sept 2007	170900H Sept 2007	Php 3,000.00

2. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from PN BAC and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from ***8:00 AM to 5:00 PM***, **Monday** to **Friday**.
3. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of *Mentioned in Para 1*. The method of payment will be ***in the form of cash***. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
4. The *Armed Forces of the Philippines* will hold a **Pre-Bid Conference** open to all interested parties at **Office of the PN Bids and Awards Committee, Bonifacio Naval Station, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.**
5. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before **September 12, 2007, 9:00 AM for Lot 1 and September 17, 2007, 9:00 AM for Lot 2.** All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the form of Surety Bond or Manager's Check. Late Bids shall not be accepted.
6. **Bid opening** shall be on **September 12, 2007, 9:00 AM for Lot 1 and September 17, 2007, 9:00 AM for Lot 2 at Office of the PN Bids and Awards Committee, Bonifacio Naval Station, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.** Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
7. The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Office of the PN Bids and Awards Committee
BNS, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City
Contact Person: ***CDR GLICERIO P VILLANUEVA PN***
Cel Nr: 0917-8599-434 / 0918-2016-522
Tel Nr: 616-8218, 815-3420, 843-4416 & 815-8093 local 6341

(Sgd.) **ADRIANO V MUNAR JR**
CAPT PN (GSC)
Chairman, PNBAC

(PDI--Aug. 26, 2007)

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www.aseanbiodiversity.org

Job Advertisement

The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) is a newly established intergovernmental organization aiming to become a center for coordinating the regional effort towards sustainable management of biodiversity resources in the ASEAN region.

Based at the ACB Headquarters located in Los Baños, Laguna Philippines, ACB is seeking dynamic, innovative and committed candidates for the following positions:

1) **Head of Public Affairs** – He/she shall develop regional and international communication and media strategies that will promote the key principles of biodiversity and overall mission to key targeted audiences; Guide the publications of materials produced and developed by the Centre; Undertake market research to identify relevant messages, target audiences and effective channels for communications, and to pre-test materials; Develop and maintain public relations with the stakeholders, NGO's, reporters, television producers and other news decision-makers in the ASEAN region; provide advice and assistance to the ASEAN Member Countries on public communications. He/she shall be a national of any ASEAN Member Countries, have at least 15 years of experience in managing public promotions for environmental or social NGOs or international organizations and/or equivalent experience in journalism or management in TV, print, radio and or web-cast media; He/she shall have an advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in Public Affairs, Mass Communications, Development Communication, Life or Social Sciences, Journalism or related fields.

2) **Policy and Programme Development Specialist** – He/she shall Design and conduct special studies to determine policy and program needs on biodiversity management of ACB and AMCs and recommend appropriate action plans; Prepare policy papers and develop programs/projects on biodiversity management for ACB and AMCs, consistent with the national and regional goals, i.e. Vientiane Action Plan; Monitor and assess socio-economic, political, financial, operational, organizational, environmental and cultural impacts of programs to be developed as well as those being implemented by ACB and AMCs on biodiversity management; Analyze on-going ACB programs and recommend modifications of policies and procedures to enhance programs; Prepare project and program proposals to mobilize resources for ACB and AMCs; Provide information and guidance to the ASEAN Member Countries on policy and programme development matters. He/she shall be a national of any ASEAN Member Countries, have at least 5 years of relevant and progressively responsible experience in developing policies and programs, managing programs and projects, writing proposals, plans and policy papers as well as experience in working with governments, stakeholders and various interests groups. He/she shall have an advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in Public Policy, Public Administration, Environment or Natural Resources Management/Science, or any related course.

3) **Information Specialist** - Assists in the maintenance and enhancement of ACB databases and applications, including assurance of content update and validation; Assists in the preparation of ACB statistical reports, regional analysis maps and early warning system design; Undertakes research, data collection and analyses to support ACB's policy and strategy-related work program; Undertakes research and support activities relating to internal and external data and information and reporting standards; clearing-house mechanism, and global and regional approaches to information and reporting standardization and harmonization; Participates in innovative inter-agency linkaging and partnerships and data sharing networks with ASEAN and global data holders and data users; knowledge-sharing and dissemination solutions to promote the use of ACB databases; web content client targeting; and other general information and knowledge sharing and dissemination mechanisms; Assists in designing and implementing ACB capacity building initiatives. He/she shall be a national of any ASEAN Member Countries, have at least 5 years of experience in work programming and programme/project administration, and social network and partnership development and support; has knowledge of designing and implementing databases systems and programming applications particularly using natural resources data and information for decision-support. He/she shall have an advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in development communications, information management, information science, environment science and other related disciplines. He/she shall have knowledge of word processing, statistical analysis, presentation and graphics, project management and other computer software; knowledge of web content management an advantage.

4) **Partnership and Resource Mobilization Specialist** - Develop proposals, strategize actions and implement ACB's partnership building and resource mobilization activities; Foster relations with existing and potential partners in the private and public sectors to maintain ACB's external working relations and to leverage resources for the programmes and projects of ACB and AMCs; Maintain partners and donors database as well as keep track of and analyze partnership and resource mobilization trends to develop prospects and recognize opportunities for the Centre; Generate funds and resources for the Centre's operations and endowment fund (ASEAN Biodiversity Fund) and assist in the establishment and maintenance of sustainable financing mechanisms. He/shall shall be a national of any ASEAN Member Countries, have at least 5 years of relevant and progressively responsible experience in forging partnerships and mobilizing resources for programmes and projects; have experience in working with and negotiations with stakeholders preferably of environmental causes and/or institutions. He/she shall have an advanced university degree (Master's degree or equivalent) in Management, Marketing, Public or Business Administration, Environment or Natural Resources Management/Science, or any related course.

Interested applicants are advised to visit http://www.aseanbiodiversity.org/jobs, for further details on eligibility and documentary requirements for these posts. Deadline for submission of completed application is on **16 September 2007**. Applications entered after the said date will not be considered. Only short-listed applicants will be given due notice. Previous applicants to this post may apply again.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that **Marsman Drysdale Medical Products, Inc. (MDMPI)** with principal office at G/F Molave bldg., 2231 Pasong Tamo, Makati City, is the exclusive distributor of Beckman Coulter products in the Philippines. Beckman Coulter and/or MDMPI does not authorize or license and has not authorized or licensed the use, possession, sale and or lease of second hand Beckman Coulter products as well as substitute reagents to any party or entity. Hence, the use, sale or lease and/or any transaction involving such second hand products and substitute reagents is unauthorized and illegal and is considered infringement of patent trademarks and/or copyright laws.

The public is warned that second hand/used Beckman Coulter products and equipment and substitute reagents are not warranted for use, sale, distribution or lease in the Philippines. Beckman Coulter and/or Marsman Drysdale Medical Products, Inc. is not responsible nor liable for any damage caused by the use, sale or lease said second hand/used products or substitute reagents or for the use of the test results generated by said products/equipment.

Beckman Coulter and/or MDMPI hereby reserves the right to file appropriate legal action against persons or entities using, selling, leasing or transacting business with respect to these second hand/used products or substitute reagents and shall prosecute them to the full extent of the law.

BECKMAN COULTER and MARSMAN DRYSDALE MEDICAL PRODUCTS, INC.

Tel. No. 751-9999 Fax No. 817-8405

(PDI - August 26, 2007)

MARSMAN DRYSDALE MEDICAL PRODUCTS, INC.

BECKMAN COULTER

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Marian Lucy S. Guzman

Felino S. Ramos

The persons, whose pictures appear above, are no longer connected with Marsman Drysdale Medical Products Inc. or Beckman Coulter Inc. Any transactions entered into by either of the above for and/or on behalf of either company effective July 2004 shall no longer be honored.

(PDI - August 26, 2007)

TRANSCO SELLS P230-M SUB-TRANSMISSION ASSETS TO MERALCO

WELCOME
ARTHUR K. AGUILAR

The National Transmission Corporation (TransCo) recently signed a P230-million contract with the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) for the sale of the former's sub-transmission assets in Bulacan, Cavite and Laguna. Shown were their presidents Arthur Aguilar and Jesus Francisco respectively. The divestment of sub-transmission assets to qualified distribution utilities is part of TransCo's efforts to pursue power sector reforms as mandated by the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA) of 2001.

"Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free',
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard him call;
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way;
I found that place at the close of day.'
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;
Ah yes, these things, I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much;
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seems all to brief;
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

Josephine "Josee" Perlas - Mayo

1946 - 2007

has joined her parents **Col. Jose Z. Perlas** (†) and
Christina C. Perlas (†) in the home of His Heavenly Father
on August 24, 2007.

Her husband, (Retired) **Gen. Victor A. Mayo**
Her daughter and son-in-law, **Peni** and **Mark Choi**
Her son and daughter-in-law, **Trius** and **Ruby Mayo**

Her grandchildren, **Joseph, Michael, Aaron, Khayla, Kyle** and **Jeremy**

Her sisters, **Lorna Holton** and **Patricia Siegel**
Her brothers and sisters-in-law, **Leus** and **Niles Perlas, Tony** and **Bing Perlas, Angelo Perlas, Bobby Perlas, Aida Mayo, Sonia** and **Ed Solilapsi** and **Mario Mayo.**

Request the readers to pray for the repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in Santuario de San Antonio Capilla de La Virgen.

Interment schedule will be announced later.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

NICOLAS CRESCINI

wish to convey our deepest appreciation to all of you, our relatives and friends who spent precious time with us, sent flowers, mass cards, gave donations or in some other way expressed your love, concern and support in celebration of **Nicolas'** coming home to his Creator.

I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 14:6

NYMPHA JAVIER REYES

(August 19, 1937 – August 24, 2007)

joined her Creator, her parents Jose and Augustina and brother Noriel at the age of 70.

Her loving husband **Simplicio A. Reyes**; children **Myron, Alain** and **Dandee Modina, Glenn, Nancy Grace** and **Ejay Grey**; grandchildren **Mikko, Maika, Alex, AJ, Sam, Paolo** and **Trixie**; siblings and in-laws **Ligaya** and **Jose Abalos, Raquel & Melvin Baquiran, Rey** and **Carmelita Florentino**; and all relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her cremated remains shall lie at Funeraria Paz, Manila Memorial Park, Sucat Road, Parañaque City until Tuesday, August 28, 2007.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY
Our Dearly Beloved

ATTY. TITUS C. VILLANUEVA, JR.

January 20, 1964 - August 26, 1997

was called by the Lord to start a new life in heaven and so we again commemorate today that new life.

We, his loving wife **Nancy Grace**; children **Titus III, Marius Paul, Bianca Grace**; parents **Titus Sr.** and **Teresita**; brothers, sisters and spouses **Linus** and **Ritchie, Marcus** and **Ana, Remus, Zeus** and **Celia, Anna Tessa, Ma. Vanessa** and **Rookie**, nephews and nieces would like to thank other relatives and friends who blessed him with love and prayers and who continue to keep his memory close to their hearts.

A memorial service will be held at Max's Roces on Sept. 1 at 6 p.m.

"For me to live is Christ and to die is gain"

Death Notice

ROBERTO BORJA SR.

Died August 21, 2007 at the age of 84.

His body lies in state at Chapel Love Arlington, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, August 28, 2007, 2 p.m. at Eternal Garden, Quezon City.

UNDER RENOVATION

Inquirer Classifieds

SM Megamall Branch,
5th Floor Building B from
July 30 to
September 15, 2007.

For ad placements, please call

6350219, 6350220 or 8978808.

Our Dearly Beloved

ROSA CRISTOBAL MILLAN

(February 10, 1909 - August 24, 2007)

Peacefully joined our Lord on August 24, 2007 at the age of 98.

Her loving husband **Diomedes** (†); children **Rosario & Cesar Sr., Rosalina & James, Sr., Rosalia** and **Rosita Adelaida & Eric**; grandchildren and all friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at La Funeraria Paz, Inc., located at G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be announced later.

SALVADOR V. MARCELINO

Peacefully joined our Lord on August 24, 2007 at the age of 72.

His bereaved wife **Claring**; children & in-laws **Thess & Craig, Vicky & Noli, Louie & Marlo, Jojo & Amy, Malou & Carlo**; grandchildren **Jasper, Jason, Jastin, Irwin, Akita, Johann, Adee, Josh & Topher**, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal happiness in heaven.

His remains lie in state at the Garden of Memories Memorial Chapels, Bagong Calzada, Pateros, Metro Manila.

Interment will be on Thursday, August 30, 2007 after the 2:00 p.m. funeral Mass at the Garden of Memories Memorial Park.

BENJAMIN C. CARLOS

August 21, 1945 – August 23, 2007

His wife **Essen**; and children **Ronald & Girlie, Ray, Randy & Nina, May, Ojie & Rossel, Rome & Macy, Nick & Bessen, Shy** and **Bryan**; grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious reader to pray for his soul.

Wake and vigil at Vasquez Funeral Home, Pulang Lupa, Las Piñas. Interment today, August 26, 2007, 3:00 p.m. at Golden Haven Park, Tramo Rd., Pulang Lupa Uno, Las Piñas City.

More Classified Ad:

Isla Lipana .... Page B2

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

Head Office: 897-8808 loc. 514, 516; 899-4425; 899-4427; 897-8425 **(Telefax)**
Cubao: 912-9008 to 11 **(Aurora)**
Makati: 892-5578; 811-4361; 811-4370
Kalaw: 528-0213; 527-3342
Megamall: 635-0219; 635-0220

CLASSIFIEDS

UCPB Savings

UCPB SAVINGS BANK ADVISORY

To the heirs of deceased stockholders of former **UNITED SAVINGS BANK, UNITED EASTERN SAVINGS BANK, INC., UNITED MINDORO SAVINGS BANK, INC., UNITED BICOL SAVINGS BANK, INC.**, and **DOMESTIC SAVINGS & LOAN ASSOCIATION, INC.**, (now known collectively as **UCPB SAVINGS BANK**) and former **UCPB RURAL BANK** (now similarly known as **UCPB SAVINGS BANK**), the following are the requirements for the issuance of new certificates of shares of stock in your names, as replacement of the existing certificates of stock issued in the name of your deceased loveones:

1) Affidavit of Transfer to be executed by every legal heir/transferee in accordance with CB CIRCULAR NO. 787
2) Proof of Citizenship of the transferee/s (any of the following):
    a) Birth Certificate
    b) Driver's license
    c) Marriage Contract/Passport
    d) Voter's, SSS, GSIS ID
3) Death Certificate of stockholder
4) Duly notarized Affidavit of Heirship or other related documents with quitclaim or waiver of rights of other heirs, as the case may be.
5) BIR-Estate Tax Clearance
6) Original stock certificate/s

For inquiries, please get in touch with any branch of **UCPB SAVINGS BANK** located nearest your residence.

(Sgd.) Atty. JOSE A. BARCELON
Corporate Secretary

(PDI--August 24 & 26, 2007)

European Union
Delegation of the European Commission
to the Philippines

TRTA Programme Job Vacancy

The Consortium led by **ECA, S.A.U**, Service Contractor for the EU-assisted Trade Related Technical Assistance (TRTA) Programme in the Philippines (**EuropeAid/121182/C/SV/PH**), is seeking qualified Filipino applicants for the post of

Systems Security Trainer

The overall objective of the TRTA programme, which is based in Manila, is to assist the Philippines to significantly enhance trade and investment with the European Union (EU).

The selected applicant will work for 55 days as a Local Short-Term Expert (LSTE) under the **Customs Component of the TRTA Programme** and will report directly to the International Customs Risk Management Expert posted at the Bureau of Customs (BoC). The tasks include detailed assessment of current BoC systems security, recommend measures for its enhancement, and development and delivery of systems security training modules. The qualification requirements include a degree in Computer Science or Software Engineering, and at least 5-years experience in systems security in a large multinational corporation or information technology company.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE ASKED TO SUBMIT THEIR LETTER OF APPLICATION AND ACCOMPLISHED CURRICULUM VITAE IN EU FORMAT downloadable at www.trtaphils.org on or before 7 September by email to: MR. JAIME TABORDA, Bureau of Customs, dhee_c@yahoo.com. The full Terms of Reference for the post can be found in the same website.

Strategic information management seminar set

THE ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE IS PLEASED TO invite you to a free seminar entitled Strategic Information Management: Tapping Business Intelligence and Knowledge Management for Competitive Advantage on Aug. 29, 1:30-5 p.m. at Asia Pacific College.

The seminar is designed specifically to broaden your perspective on how to make organizations more competitive. This will help you meet the challenge of building corporate strategy through business intelligence and knowledge management. It distills and applies the latest strategic approaches to help you accurately assess what is outside and within your organization, to create coherent and forceful plans. Discover tangible tools and best practices to help your organization gain competitive advantage. Discover the secret why leading companies are several steps ahead of their competitors.

Limited slots are available; for reservations call 851-5503 to 04 and look for Mylene Enriquez or Marvin Dona.

NCO group exclusive Job Fairs

CALLING ON ALL aspiring call center agents, NCO Group will holds its eXclusive job fairs on Aug. 28 from 9am till 2pm at the RASA Best of Singapore Restaurant, beside Greengate Araneta Center, Cubao and Aug. 30, 1 to 9 p.m at Be Connected Internet Cafe, 4th Level, Trinoma Mall. Applicants should be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma, must be computer literate and possess excellent communication skills. Bring your resumes and a photocopy of any valid ID on the said dates. This job fair is done in cooperation with the Quezon City Government through the leadership of Mayor Sonny Belmonte and councilors Bolet Banal, Candy Medina, and RJ Belmonte.

JOB Market

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2007
Philippine Copyright 1995

For jobseekers, log on to:
www. jobmarketonline.com

JOBMarket is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the INQUIRER published every Sunday and distributed in key cities

RATES (R-VAT exclusive)
P245 per column centimeter every Sunday
DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon

Text us your feedback: Inquirer jm name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Find A Career In Here.

ARE YOU A GAMER?

We have job openings for Gaming Console Tech support agents

JOIN OUR JOB FAIRS AND BE HIRED IMMEDIATELY!

RASA, GATEWAY MALL ARANETA CENTER CUBAO, Q.C.
AUGUST 28, 2007 9AM-3PM

Be Connected Internet Cafe, Fourth Level, TriNoma
AUGUST 30, 2007 1PM-7PM

NCO GROUP

Fourth Floor, ELJ Communications Center ABS CBN Compound, Mo. Ignacia Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 981-7564; 981-7585; 981- 7586
Mobile: 0919- 7137777
Email: manilarecruitment@ncogroup.com

SANDVIK

Sandvik Mining and Construction is a business area within the Sandvik Group and a leading global supplier of machinery, cemented-carbide tools, service and technical solutions for the excavation of rock and minerals in the mining and construction industries.

We are seeking for people who are passionate about their work and possess the drive to excel to join us as:

SERVICE ENGINEER/SERVICE TECHNICIAN

The business is expected to experience rapid growth in underground and surface equipment including drilling rigs and associated tools, loaders and trucks. Key to developing the business will be a strong focus on the service, parts and contracts business, and associated service business.

This position is strongly customer focused, requiring an in-depth understanding of the customer's business. Success will depend on the ability to develop a motivated team, to meet customers' expectations.

The person should possess a tertiary education in Engineering or Business with at least 2 years' of operational and/or maintenance experience in the mining or related industry. Strong management and interpersonal skills are critical factors to the success of this job. Further training will be provided.

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

1. **Electronic/Electro-Mechanical Engineer or Technical Graduate from recognized institute (with diploma).**
2. **Knowledge of electronic motors or servo drives and hydraulic principle.**
3. **Minimum of two (2) years relevant work experience preferably on mobile machinery and / or crushers**
4. **Basic understanding of electro-mechanical principle.**
5. **Medically fit to work on surface and underground mine.**
6. **Computer literate.**
7. **Fluent in English, both oral and written.**
8. **For possible relocation outside Metro Manila or other Countries in the Asia Pacific.**

Interested applicants may send in applications with full resume, photograph, current/ expected salaries, and contact number to:

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
Sandvik Tamrock (Philippines) Inc.
Km 20, East Service Road
South Superhighway 1770, Muntinlupa City
stpi@sandvik.com

Semitool Inc., a multinational semiconductor equipment supplier in electroplating and wafer surface preparation, listed in NASDAQ, has bright opportunities for the following two positions:

Customer Service Engineers/Process Engineers

- Required to support new equipment in Clark Export Processing Zone
- Must be bilingual in English and Filipino
- Applicants for Customer Service Engineer, Degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering is preferred.
- Applicants for Process Engineer: Degree in Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, or Material Science is required.
- 3 years experience for semiconductor advanced packaging in wet etch and/or electroplating also required.
- Successful candidates will be required to support local customers and occasional travel to support worldwide customer sites

For both positions, training in USA will be provided.

Please send resume with current and expected remuneration to:
singapore-newhires@semitool.com.

**Reach more qualified applicants.
Advertise in JobMarket Libre**

JOB Market

WANTED
JEWELRY APPRAISERS

- college graduate
- at least 3 years experience in same field
- starting salary of P10,000

FILIPINAS PAWNSHOP
585 New Panaderos St. Pag-asa, Mandaluyong City
Tel. no. 533-6938

SECRETARY
- Female/Single; Not more than 30 years old; Computer literate; At least 1 year experience

CAD Operator
- With at least 2 years experience

CIVIL & MECHANICAL ENGINEER
- With at least 2 years experience

Apply at: 437-D A. Juan St., San Juan or call 725-1114

VOLUNTEER WITH VSO

THE SKILLS YOU HAVE CAN CHANGE LIVES.

VSO volunteers come from all walks of life, who make the decision to share two years of their lives to use whatever skills they have to help communities in the world's poorest countries.

VSO Bahaginan regularly recruits professionals with expertise in **Business and Management, Health, Education, Social and Community Development, Technical, and Natural Resources.**

We urgently need volunteers with the following qualifications:

- **Advocacy specialists (Gender, Human Rights, HIV & AIDS)**
- **Agriculturists with extension/livelihood experience**
- **Fundraisers**
- **Highly skilled IT teachers/trainers**
- **Irrigation Engineers**
- **Management Advisers**
- **Monitoring & Evaluation specialists**
- **Primary teachers**
- **Psychologists and counselors**
- **Researchers on macroeconomics**
- **Small business advisers**
- **Social researchers**
- **Special Needs teachers with module development experience**
- **Sports development teacher**

If you are
- Filipino between 25 to 65 years old
- With at least 3 years relevant experience in these fields
- Able to live and work in a developing country for 2 years on a modest allowance

Make this your day to volunteer with VSO. To apply, download the VSO application form at www.vsobahaginan.org.ph.

For inquiries and information:
Call: 3746450 to 52 loc 21
Email: bahaginan@vsoint.org
Write: The Director, VSO BAHAGINAN, Unit 505 Pacific Corporate
Center, 131 West Ave., Quezon City 1105

BAHAGINAN

http://www.vsobahaginan.org.ph

Let's Study in Japan

Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) in the Republic of the Philippines 2008-2009

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has started the implementation of the Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) through the assistance of the Government of Japan for Japanese Fiscal Year 2002.

The objective of the JDS Project is to provide Philippine nationals with opportunities for obtaining master's degree at the Japanese universities in order to support human resource development policy of the Government of the Philippines, and eventually to extend and strengthen the bilateral relationship between the Philippines and Japan.

The JDS Project targets young government employee who are expected to play leadership roles in the Philippines.

The JDS Project is exclusively for the Philippine Public Sector.

Degree to be obtained and Field of Study

1. Degree: Master's Degree (2-2.5 years courses)
2. Field of Study (number of scholars to be accepted)
   -Public Administration (8 persons)
   -Economics (8 persons)
   -Information and Communication Technology (3 persons)
   -Industrial Development (2 persons)
   -Business Administration (4 persons)
3. Language of Instruction: predominantly English

Common Agenda for Each Field of Study:

For JDS project in the Philippines, the "Common Agenda" has been settled for each field as follows:

Public Administration
- ♦ Building Institutional Capacity for Better Governance
- ♦ Advancing Decentralization and Regional Development

Economics
- ♦ Ensuring Balanced and Stable Fiscal Management
- ♦ Promotion of Sound Market and Industries

Information and Communication Technology
- ♦ ICT Policy to Create Wider and Advanced Usage

Industrial Development
- ♦ Industrial Development Policy for Global Competitiveness

Business Administration
- ♦ Providing Sound and Attractive Business Environment

Allowances for JDS applicants and fellows:

1) Fee for IELTS and limited medical examination
2) Limited transportation and accommodation allowances for selection stages and .pre-departure orientation

Qualification Requirements:

1) A Filipino Citizen;
2) Below 40 years old as of April 1, 2008;
(Those who were born on/after April 2nd 1968)
3) Civilian Government employee, permanent status, and has 2 years of work experience in the public sector at the time of application;
4) Has a performance rating of at least "very satisfactory" at the time of application
5) Bachelor's degree relevant to the target fields except for ICT field, which applicants should have bachelor's degree in ICT or equivalent is required ; and
6) Has not been awarded foreign scholarship for Master's degree;

Selection Procedures

-First Selection:
Documentation Screening by Accepting Universities
-Second Selection:
English Examination(IELTS), Math Test
-Third Selection
Technical Interview by professors of the accepting universities
-Fourth Selection
Comprehensive Interview by O/C members

Application

-Application Documents are distributed at
-JICE JDS Project Office, or
-Can be downloaded at http://sv2.jice.org/jds/
(website will be available from 13th of August)

Deadline for Application

Not later than 16:30hrs on October 19, 2007
Late submission and incomplete application documents shall not be accepted.

Where to submit

Application forms and required documents must be submitted either personally, by mail, or courier to JICE JDS Project Office.

For further information, inquire from:

JICE JDS Project Office in the Philippines

(Mon to Fri, 09:00 to 12:00, 13:30 to 16:30)
Unit 2-F1, Island Plaza Salcedo, L.P. Leviste Street,
Salcedo Village, Makati City, Philippines
*TEL: 02-7533261
*Official Web Site: http://sv2.jice.org/jds/

Executing Agency

National Economic and Development Authority (Public Investment Staff)

Monde Nissin Corporation

Monde Nissin

How often do you say Lucky Me! to a career opportunity?
Join us and be a part of our team. We're looking for individuals with
Supreme PASSION & has Supreme Value FOR EXCELLENCE
Think you're the one? Then, Bingo. You just might be that person we seek! What are you waiting for?
RAISE YOUR Voice AND APPLY NOW!

ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST (ACCSP)

Accounting work requires **tenacity** – a **"never give up"** attitude when it comes to critical analysis and number crunching. If you're a **BS Accountancy graduate** and definitely up to the challenge, join our accounting team!

Possible work locations: ***Makati, Mandaluyong and Angeles City***

CATEGORY SERVICES SPECIALIST(CSS)

Innovative and has the knack for doing **creative** activities in promoting Monde Nissin's products in different places? Then, if you're a Marketing or Business graduate, we need you in our team!

Possible work Locations: ***North and Central Luzon (NCL) and South Luzon (SL)***

SALES ACCOUNT PLANNER(SAP)

Do you have what it takes to be **analytical and inquisitive?** If you're a graduate of **Business/ Economics/ Statistics or any related course**, then be part of our Customer Development Team and take the lead in providing information systems on sales operations

Work Location: ***Sta Rosa Laguna***

CHANNEL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST(CDS)

Do you have an analytical mind and a passion for customer service? You may be the person we are looking for! The CDS link Monde Nissin Corporation to our business partners to ensure that our products are within reach of our consumers. Open to **Business course and Marketing graduates.**

Possible work locations: NCL, *Mandaluyong, SL or VisMin*

Interested applicants may submit their resume with picture to: Human Resource Department, MONDE NISSIN CORPORATION
22nd Floor 6750 Bldg., Ayala Avenue, Makati City Tel. No. 754-8139 or 43 email: Makati_hr@mondenissin.com

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Land Administration and Management Project (LAMP 2) is funded with grant aid for Technical Assistance from the Australian Government and World Bank loan to the Philippine Government. The Technical Assistance Team is in need of

IT-GIS Adviser

to assist selected Local Government Units in developing IT and GIS based unified land information systems under the Innovation Support Fund. The candidate must have the following skills and experience:

- Strong Background on Geographic Information Systems
- Experience in developing and make operational data base and networked Information Systems
- Information Systems training
- Spatial and Textual Data capture

Applicants may email their CV with cover letter and at least 2 references to palamp1@mindgate.net or fax to 9281176. The full Terms of Reference are available upon request. **Deadline for Submission: 5:00 p.m., Friday 3 September 2007**

LAND equity

Land Equity International contracts and manages the grant funding for Technical Assistance. Please log on to www.landequity.com.au, for detailed information about the company and to www.phil-lamp.org for the project information.

LOOKING FOR A REWARDING CAREER IN

public relations

Top Makati-based PR firm and exclusive affiliate of one of the world's largest communications networks worldwide is looking for hardworking, success-driven and highly-motivated individuals, with excellent oral and written communication skills. Urgent requirement for the following positions:

ACCOUNT SUPERVISOR
with three to five years experience

ACCOUNT MANAGER
with one to three years experience

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
fresh graduates

Successful candidates will support the account team in various areas of account management including strategic planning, staff training & management, media relations, event management, editorial requirements, research and monitoring. All applicants must possess a degree in Communication, Journalism, Public Relations, Development Communications, Business Administration, or other related courses.

The firm is also in need of an **ACCOUNTING CLERK.**
Applicants must be accounting graduates with one to two years experience.

Please contact Ms. Baby Soriano at tel. nos. **892-0247** or **8920250.**
Resumès may also be emailed to **general@seinc.com.ph**

GPC

A fast growing manufacturing company of metal Leadframe and Heatsink is urgently needing dynamic individuals who can fill in the key positions:

Pollution Control Officer

- Male, single not over 30 years old
- License Chemical Engineer
- Knowledgeable w/ Environmental and Philippine Law
- w/ at least 1 year of experience as PCO
- Knowledgeable in processing of documents *e.g. Permits/license*
- Proficient in Computer Applications
- Articulate, analytical, diligent

Applicants may apply in person at:

GOTOH PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
Lot 16 Road 3 Phase II B SEPZ 1 Carmelray
Industrial Park Canlubang Calamba, Laguna

Or e-mail your resumé at: dennis@gotophils.com
or lvn_dejesus@yahoo.com

For inquiry you can call us at 049-5497856-60

Look for Mr. Alvin De Jesus or Ms. Riza Tulza

Staff Engineer

- Male/Female, single not over 25 years old
- B.S. Chemical or Mechanical Engineering graduate
- With or w/o license
- Proficient in Computer applications
- Articulate, analytical and diligent
- Fresh graduate are welcome

Production Control Planner

- Male/Female, single not over 35 years old
- B.S. Industrial Engineering graduate
- With at least 3-5 years experience as Production Planner
- Knowledgeable with time & motion study and inventory control
- Possesses good oral & written communication skills
- Proficient in computer application

JOB WORLD

JOB FAIR

ROADSHOW 2007

METROPOLIS STAR ALABANG

BRING RESUMES!

South Superhighway, Alabang
2nd Level Activity Area
August 29 & 30, 2007
10 AM to 6PM
YOUR DREAM JOB AWAITS. DON'T MISS IT!

AutoSport

AUTO SPORT 24 CORP.
2320 Pasong Tamo
Extension Makati City

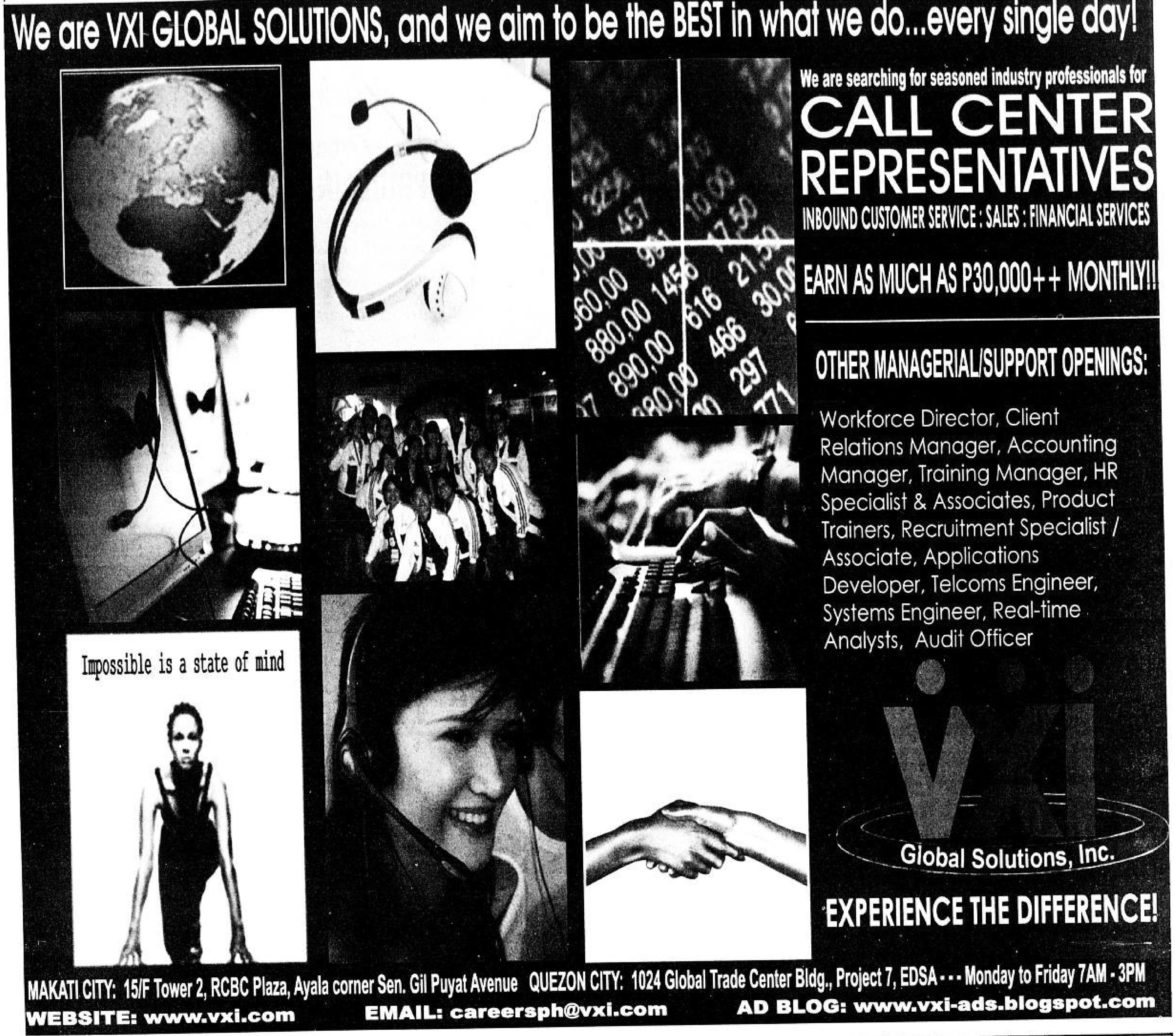
We are urgently in need of the following:

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
- Female, not more than 25 years old
- Accounting Graduate / Comp. Literate
  ❖ Fresh graduate are most welcome

DRIVER / RIDER
- Minimum of Two (2) years experience
- Has good moral character

Please send or email resumé at
autosport24@yahoo.com or call 892.8181-82

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE. JOBMarket visit us at www.jobmarketonline.com



We are VXI GLOBAL SOLUTIONS, and we aim to be the BEST in what we do...every single day!

We are searching for seasoned industry professionals for

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INBOUND CUSTOMER SERVICE : SALES : FINANCIAL SERVICES

EARN AS MUCH AS P30,000++ MONTHLY!!

OTHER MANAGERIAL/SUPPORT OPENINGS:

Workforce Director, Client Relations Manager, Accounting Manager, Training Manager, HR Specialist & Associates, Product Trainers, Recruitment Specialist / Associate, Applications Developer, Telcoms Engineer, Systems Engineer, Real-time Analysts, Audit Officer

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MAKATI CITY: 15/F Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue QUEZON CITY: 1024 Global Trade Center Bldg., Project 7, EDSA - - - Monday to Friday 7AM - 3PM

WEBSITE: www.vxi.com **EMAIL: careersph@vxi.com** **AD BLOG: www.vxi-ads.blogspot.com**

AMVEL

Amvel Land Development Corporation, owner/developer of Amvel Mansions, a medium rise residential condominium located in Parañaque City is in need of the following positions:

1. CHIEF ACCOUNTANT / FINANCIAL OFFICER

- Male or Female, at least 30 years old
- CPA, with at least 5 years experience
- Responsible for the effective application of financial controls
- Development and maintenance of accounting policies and procedures
- Preparation and analysis of company's budget and cash flow
- Coordinate with the bank of fund management, drawdown, loan interest and renewal and compliance with their requirements
- Check and review all accounting documents emanating from the Accounting Department
- Monitor and ensure compliance with audit, BIR regulations and other government statutory reporting requirements
- Prepare analysis, reconciliation and costing of Amvel Mansions Project

2. HR / PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Responsible in providing overall assistance to the HR / Administrative Department in Carrying out personnel and administrative functions
- Responsible for the preparation of employee's payroll
- Ensure the timely remittance of SSS, Philhealth and Pag-ibig contribution and loans; withholding tax, and submission of Alpha List of employees from taxes withheld are complied;
- Ensure the compliance of the Company's Policies and Regulation
- With at least 3 years experience in the same capacity

3. DOCUMENTATION ASSISTANT / EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Degree in Business Management, Economics, Communication Arts or any related course from a reputable school
- Willing and able to multi-task as a Loan Processor or Documentation Assistant and Executive Assistant to the Head of Sales and Marketing
- Must have a thorough knowledge of validation, processing and tracking of client's documents or account, registration of real estate sales, mortgages, cancellation & transfer of titles, etc.
- Must be able to deal with banks and other government agencies
- Must be able to provide direct assistance to the VP for Sales & Marketing in varied areas of responsibility
- Have excellent customer relations skills
- Above average communications skills
- Previous experience in a real estate condominium set up a distinct advantage

This is an urgent requirement, applicants are encouraged to hand carry their comprehensive resumé on or before August 31, 2007 at 6th Floor, Queensway Bldg., 118 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City. Please look for Ms. Weng Quinton. Only short listed applicants will be notified. *(Note: Qualified applicants will be assigned at the Makati office)*

DUNLOP

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Female, aggressive, good PR skills,
extensive background experience w/ corporate
sales, goal & performance oriented
Will be assigned to do fieldwork
Interested applicants may send resume,
2x2 photo & transcript to:

TYREMART, INC.
347 Ortigas Ave., Greenhills East,
Mandaluyong City
or email to: tyremartphil@yahoo.com.ph

NOTICE OF HIRING

The Philippine Mining Development Corporation (PMDC) is accepting applicants for the following positions:

LAWYER

- Preferably with familiarity of Mining Laws

INVENTORY CLERK

- Willing to be assigned in Diwalwal, Monkayo, Compostela Valley

Interested applicants may submit their resumé to the Philippine Mining Development Corporation, attention to:

The Manager, Corporate Services Group
at 3602 Antel Global Building,
J. Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
or through e-mail address:
mdsantos@pmdc.com.ph

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bayan

Bayan Telecommunications, Inc.

is a leading provider of telecommunications and data services in the Philippines. In Bayan, we strive to make a difference by offering products and services that bring out the best in the lives of Filipinos. We challenge our employees to grow professionally as we improve the lives of our customers, while enjoying their careers in a fun and *kakaiba* way.

Bayan is currently in need of highly dynamic and self-motivated individuals to fill in the following positions:

In-bound Call Center Head

Role

- Able to implement approaches in gathering information from customer inbound interactions to understand their needs and influence business decisions affecting customer product/package development, customer acquisition process and retention programs.
- Able to create an operations capacity plan and recommend the manpower complement to meet the service level target of the call center.

Requirement

- At least 5 to 7 years work experience handling in-bound Call Center / Customer Service
- Operations in a managerial capacity
- Very high customer service orientation
- High initiative, with exceptional communication skills
- Can handle pressure and works well with deadlines
- Mature and professional mindset / behavior

Customer Care Team Leader

Role

- Able to supervise the team in service order, dispute, fault entries, credit events and complaints handling to ensure adherence to customer service standards
- Able to create realistic volume / transaction forecasts, determine optimal staffing level in order build flexible work schedules for the team
  Able to prepare the standard operations reports to document performance for the period

Requirement

- At least 3 years of working experience in progressive quality Customer Service, preferably in the telecommunications / IT / technology-related or service industries
- Very high customer service orientation
- High initiative, with exceptional communication skills
- Can handle pressure and works well with deadlines
- Mature and professional mindset / behavior

QA Team Leader

Role

- Will handle and develop Quality Assurance Analysts for performance and process improvement

Requirement

- 3 to 5 years work experience in a manufacturing, telecommunications or call center environment
- 1 to 3 years work experience in successful task lead or decision-making role in QA
- With experience in leading successful projects for process and performance improvement
- Adept in developing and mentoring QA team members
- With good background in Quality Systems / Methodologies (COPC, ISO, Six Sigma)
- Well versed in MS Power Point, Excel and Word
- Has excellent presentation, interpersonal and communications skills
- Willing to travel throughout all business centers of the company across the country or other locations as required

Training Team Leader

Role

- Will manage and develop Department Trainers
- Will design and develop training modules for new hires and existing employees

Requirement

- 3 to 5 years work experience in a telecommunications or call center environment
- 1 to 3 years work experience in successful task lead or decision-making role in Training / Learning
- Experience in leading successful projects or initiatives to improve learning processes or methods
- Adept in developing and mentoring technical trainers
- Skilled in analyzing, designing, developing, implementing and evaluating training modules
- Well versed in MS Power Point, Excel and Word
- Has excellent presentation, interpersonal and communications skills
- Willing to travel throughout all business centers of the company across the country or other locations as required

Financial Analyst

Role

- Assist the Business Development Head in ensuring new lines of business are properly analyzed and executed within the financial metrics

Requirement

- Graduate of Economics / Accounting / Industrial Engineering
- CFA / CPA is an advantage
- Experience in doing financial models for long capital projects or financial planning and analysis
- Involved in doing industry research and financial benchmarking
- Experience in telecommunications and IT industries is an advantage
- Willing to travel throughout all business centers of the company across the country or other locations as required

Interested applicants may send their updated resumes with cover letter to
Recruitment Department, Bayan Telecommunications, Inc., Bayan Corporate Center,
Maginhawa corner Malingap Sts., Teachers Village East, Diliman, Quezon City
Or e-mail it to careers@bayan.com.ph

FINETOOL SAUDI ARABIA CO. LTD.

Our client, FINETOOL SAUDI ARABIA CO. LTD., **a commercial tool room dedicated to serve the manufacturers in the Kingdom and Middle East in precision tooling and engineering parts currently expanding the facility and needs the following professionals:**

CNC MILLING MACHINE OPERATORS (Ref. MILL, 4 Nos) – BS Mechanical Eng'g. Min. 3 years experience in programming and operating 3-Axis CNC milling machines for precision mold and die manufacturing using Mastercam. Able to read blue prints and achieving required tolerance and surface finish and efficient in using measuring instruments. Can manage independently in setting up jigs and fixtures. Able to operate and program 4-Axis CNC milling machines using Mastercam is a plus.

CNC EDM MACHINE OPERATORS (Ref. EDM, 1 No) – BS Mechanical Eng'g. Min. 5 years experience in programming and operating 4-Axis CNC wire-cut and 3-Axis CNC EDM machines for precision mold and die manufacturing. Able to read blue prints and achieving required tolerance and surface finish and efficient in using measuring instruments. Can manage independently in setting up jigs and fixtures. Experience in super-finish EDM is a plus.

CNC TURNING MACHINE OPERATORS (Ref. TURN, 2 Nos) – BS Mechanical Eng'g. Min. 5 years experience in programming and operating 2-Axis CNC Turning machines for precision mold and die manufacturing and small batch production. Able to read blue prints and achieving required tolerance and surface finish and efficient in using measuring instruments. Can manage independently in setting up jigs and fixtures. Ability to operate and program 4 Axis CNC turning machine (live tool) is a plus.

PRESS-TOOLS DIE MAKERS (Ref. DIE, 2 Nos) – BS Mechanical Eng'g. Min. 7 years experience in fitting, assembly and troubleshooting precision progressive dies and deep drawing tools. Excellent hand skills in using air tools for bench fitting, Skilled in using precision measuring instruments and surface grinding machines. Experience in Heat treatment process and cylindrical grinding is an advantage.

PRECISION MOLD MAKERS (Ref. MOLD, 2 Nos) – BS Mechanical Eng'g. Min. 7 years experience in fitting, assembly and troubleshooting precision multi-cavities closures molds and Extrusion / PET blow molds. Able to read blue prints and achieving required fitting tolerances and surface finish. Excellent hand skills in using air tools in bench fitting and in using measuring instruments and surface grinding machine. Experiences in Heat treatment process, hot runner systems and injection molding machine parameters and mold setup is an advantage.

MOLD POLISHERS (Ref. POL, 1 No) – HS graduate. Min. 7 years experience in fitting and polishing precision multi-cavities closures molds and Extrusion / PET blow molds. Able to read blue prints and achieving required fitting tolerances and surface finish. Excellent hand skills in using air tools and ultrasound polishing machines. Excellent in using measuring instruments, turning and surface grinding machines. Experience in Chrome plating is a plus.

QC/QA (Ref. QA, 2 Nos) – BS Mechanical / Tooling Eng'g. Min. 7 years with ISO-9001 Auditing experience. Able to read blue prints and understands functional tolerances and surface finish. Excellent skills in reverse-engineering parts using measuring instruments, CMM and Hardness tester is a must. Has tool making experience and able to do material identification using Spectrometer is a plus.

CHANGE PARTS DESIGNERS (Ref. DESIGN, 2 Nos) – BS Mechanical Eng'g. Min. 5 years experience in workshop machineries. Creative thinker in Designing Spare and Change Parts for the Pharma and Beverage Filling Industries. Able to create assembly and manufacturing drawings using AutoCAD and Solid Works. Excellent skills in reverse-engineering parts using measuring instruments, and material Hardness testing for documentation. Mastercam programming experience is a plus.

CYLINDRICAL GRINDING MACHINE OPERATORS (Ref. CYL, 1 No) – BS Mechanical Eng'g. Min. 7 years experience in operating cylindrical grinding machine for Carbide and hard steel alloyed precision tooling. Excellent hand skills in using air tools in bench fitting and wheel dressing, measuring instruments, surface grinding machine, profile dressing and jig grinding. Able to read blue prints and achieving required fitting tolerances and surface finish.

Please report with your resume and all pertinent copies of documents to support skills and qualifications. You can also email your resume in MS Word format at **isd@isdphilippines.com** or fill up our On-Line Application at our web site at **www.isdphilippines.com**

Beware of illegal recruiters. For Manpower Pooling Only. No fees to be collected.

I S D

International Skill Development, Inc.
POEA License No. 252-LB-091003-AOE
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Award of Excellence

VEGA MANILA CREWMANAGEMENT, INC

is urgently in need of

SHIPBUILDING SUPERVISORS – HULL

Scope of the Job:

- supervise the construction of new vessels in foreign shipyards, in accordance to agreed specification
- regularly report the progress of works to the company
- liaise with Shipyard and Classification Society in the timely and proper construction of new vessels

Qualifications:

- licensed Naval Architect or related Degree in shipbuilding
- minimum 1 year experience of shipyard supervision for new buildings
- not more than 50 years old
- computer literate
- willing to work overseas
- highly motivated and possess excellent leadership qualities
- good command of spoken and written English

Salary: negotiable, commiserating qualification and experience

The successful applicants shall have great possibility of long term employment with our fast growing company.

Please send resumes to **vmci@vega-manila.com.ph** or contact:

CAPT. VIC FEDELICIO
Unit 901 & 903, State Financing Center II, Ortigas Ave.,
Mandaluyong City
(Beside POEA)
Tel.: 725-1840 / 722-6588
aoh: 0918 979 2337
Website: **www.vega-manila.com.ph**

SM DEPARTMENT STORE

SELLING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

Plans, controls and directs selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets.

QUALIFICATIONS
- male/female; not over 35 years old
- graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, fastfood/restaurant chains or in sales in the same capacity
- ability to carry out prompt and efficient customer service

COUNTER / CHECKING SUPERVISOR

Handles cashiering operations, cash transactions and over-all supervision of personnel in the department.

QUALIFICATIONS
- female; not over 32 years old
- graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in bank operations or counter-cashier functions
- familiar with credit card transactions

Interested parties may apply personally from

August 27 to September 01 2007
Monday to Saturday, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

at

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
Building B, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City

or email us at
Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

(Please bring comprehensive resume, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number/SSS Employment History printout plus original and photocopy of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

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dage
A NORDSON COMPANY

The Dage group, founded in 1961, is a market leader in Bondtesters and X-Ray Inspection Systems in its chosen markets of Semiconductor and PCB Assembly.

As a result of our expansion in the region, we are seeking self-driven, motivated individuals to join our Service team to be based in Philippines.

If you are interested please email your CVs to **recruit@dage-group.com**

JOB SCOPE

1. COMMISSIONING OF EQUIPMENT CUM TRAINING
2. PERFORM IN HOUSE SERVICE -
   a. Trouble shooting of equipment
   b. Equipment testing and packing prior to shipment
   c. Application/sample evaluation for customers
3. PERFORM ON SITE SERVICES -
   a. Perform routine service for the customers
   b. Service repairs/troubleshooting
4. PROVIDE TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO DISTRIBUTORS AND CUSTOMERS
   a. Online support
   b. Warranty issue

REQUIREMENT
- Minimum Diploma in Electrical or Electronics
- PC literate and understand Win XP/Win 2000
- Able to travel and work independently
- Semiconductor industry background with knowledge on IC Packaging is an advantage

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Management Systems International (MSI) project with offices in Salcedo Village, Makati, is looking for a

Architect or Civil Engineer

The Architect or Civil Engineer will report to the Senior Advisor for the Run After Tax Evaders (RATE) Program and shall work closely with BIR and RATE Component Manager. He/She is responsible for assessing the office layout given the workflow and space associated with computerized set-up requirements of assigned District Offices (RDO) of the BIR, design the required electrical plan of the RDO, estimate, recommend changes and design the required office layout to enable the RDO to run the ITS smoothly and have such plans approved by the designated BIR officials, estimate the costs associated with implementing the changes, evaluate the contractor bids and conduct inspection of the civil works once completed.

The applicants should be a certified Architect or Civil Engineer (w/ valid license), must have practical experience in designing office layout, knowledgeable in the current costs related to the office civil works, willing to travel throughout the Philippines.

Electrical Engineer

The Electrical Engineer will report to the Senior Advisor for RATE and shall work closely with BIR and RATE Component Manager. He/She is responsible for assessment of the electrical load requirements of assigned District Offices (RDO) of the BIR, design the required electrical plan of the RDO, estimate the costs associated with implementing the upgrade, evaluate contractor bids, monitor the implementation of the upgrade and conduct inspection and testing the electrical system once completed.

The applicants should be a certified Electrical Engineer (w/ valid license), must have practical experience in estimating electrical load requirements of buildings, knowledgeable in the current electrical-related equipment and labor costs, willing to travel throughout the Philippines.

Network Engineer

The Network Engineer will report to the Senior Advisor for RATE and shall work closely with BIR and RATE Component Manager. He/She is responsible for assessment of the network requirements of assigned Revenue District Offices (RDO) of the BIR, design of the required local area network of the RDO, estimate the costs associated with installing the network, evaluate contractor bids, monitor the installation of the network and conduct inspection and testing the network system once completed.

The applicants should have an extensive LAN/WAN design experience, has designed both Frame Relay and Internet Network infrastructures, knowledgeable of the current network-related equipment costs and willing to travel throughout the Philippines.

Interested applicants, please send in your applications to mpastrana@msi-mca.com, or mail them to Unit 2302, 23rd Floor, 88 Corporate Center, 141 Sedeno corner Valero Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati, 1227. Deadline for applications is on September 3, 2007.

CORPORATE TRAINERS
Have developed and conducted training modules on any of the following:
- Effective Management
- Strategic Leadership
- Customer Service
- Corporate Values and Ethics
- Teambuilding
- Business Communication
- Sales and Marketing

Able to facilitate interesting and engaging discussions

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS
Excellent communication skills
Willing to work flexible hours
Teaching experience an advantage

ACADEMIC TUTORS
Graduates or students or teachers of UP, Ateneo, La Salle only
Have good rapport with young people

LECTURERS
Will lecture on Math or Science or Language, Reading, or General Information
Honor graduates or teachers of UP, Ateneo, and La Salle; or Bar or board topnotchers; or law or medicine graduates and students with outstanding scholastic records only

MANAGERS/MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
With at least 1-2 years supervisory experience in business management
With excellent communication and organizational skills

TRAINING / ACADEMIC COORDINATOR
With at least 6 months administrative experience

SALES EXECUTIVES *w/ experience*
Very good communication skills
Excellent interpersonal skills
Willing to travel and work flexible hours

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS
Graduates of Mass Comm, English, Law, Management, Business Admin; or MBA students
With relevant writing/editing experience
Perfect English skills

WEB-BASED MARKETING COORDINATOR
Graduate of any business-related course
With excellent communication and organizational skills
Computer literate and Internet-savvy

PART-TIME WRITERS AND EDITORS
PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR
ACADEMIC CONTENT DEVELOPER
FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS
PROJECT COORDINATOR
TRAINING COORDINATOR
EVENTS COORDINATOR
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

(Part-time and Full-time positions available.)

Send your CV with a recent photo to aheadph@gmail.com
For faster results, use video resume at www vidres.net

AHEAD LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC.

MAIN: FBR Building, 317 Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City • **GREENHILLS:** Providence Building, 55 Annapolis Street • **ROBINSONS GALLERIA:** Park Avenue (near Equitable Bank), Ortigas Center • **ALABANG:** Prime Center, Prime cor Enterprise Sts., Madrigal Business Park, Alabang • **DAGUPAN:** De Venecia Road, Lucao District

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URGENTLY NEEDED:

EXPERIENCED CIVIL ENGINEERS

- * Male, 25-35 years old; preferably single.
- * Must have at least 2 years work experience on cost estimates and design.
- * License not required but would be an advantage.
- * Willing to do fieldwork.
- * With adequate communication, presentation, leadership and interpersonal skills.
- * Highly computer literate.

(Salary open for negotiation)

Interested applicants must email their resume with picture and references to:

ur.fortress@gmail.com

NAZ INTERNATIONAL - Qatar

In need of the following

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS	Candidates must have a degree in BSME, expert in all kinds of Heavy equipment vehicles
ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	10 years experience in AutoCAD, Distribution Boards, Building Services Estimation
HVAC TECHNICIAN	With more than 4 years of air-conditioning work experience in installation, repair and maintenance of all types of Air-conditioning units. Technical know how in handling and usage of air-conditioning tools and equipment.
HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVERS	25-35 Years old Must have Gulf experience, preferably U.A.E. Gulf Drivers license will be a plus. Basic salary plus overtime (50 Riyals per trip)
ELECTRONIC ELECTRICIANS	25-35 Years old, experience in fire alarm systems and SMAT (satellite) TVs, at least 2-3 years work experience.
HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR MOBILE CRANE OPERATOR	Experienced in operating cranes with latest computer technology

QUALIFICATIONS, REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Male, 25 to 35 years old, at least High School Graduate or a Graduate of Special-Vocational Courses, or College Degree holders will be a plus. Curriculum Vitae/Resume/Bio-data . Four (4) pcs 2x2 colored pictures, Diploma, TOR (Transcript of Records), Trade Test Certificate (if and when ,available), or TESDA COC (Certificate of Competency), Certificates of Employment, NBI & Passport (photocopy)

JERR SERVICES & TRADING CORP.
2/F Jerr BLDG., 511 Alonso Street, Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos. 521-2998 or 521-8928
Celphone nos. 09178482051 or 09209703576
Email: jerr_services@yahoo.com or jpl777ph@yahoo.com
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InterContinental Hotels Group is the world's largest hotel group by number of rooms. InterContinental Hotels Group owns, manages, leases or franchises, through various subsidiaries, over 3,700 hotels and 556,246 guest rooms in nearly 100 countries and territories around the world. The Group owns a portfolio of well recognized and respected hotel brands including InterContinental® Hotels & Resorts, CrownePlaza® Hotels & Resorts, Holiday Inn® Hotels and Resorts, Holiday Inn Express®, StaybridgeSuites®, Candlewood Suites® and Hotel Indigo®, and also manages the world's largest hotel loyalty programme, Priority Club® Rewards with over 31 million members worldwide.

IHG
InterContinental Hotels Group

Address: 29/F, Tower II, RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Ave, Makati City
Website: www.ihg-careers.com, www.ihg.com
Email: phlro.resumes@ihg.com
Tel: 8578800 Fax: 8578881

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES/ RESERVATION SALES AGENTS

(English, Spanish, or Japanese*)

Job Summary:

- Represents the company by coordinating all aspects of Priority Club programs and serves as a liaison between the guests and hotels in order to maintain member satisfaction
- Delivers individualized Customer Experiences by focusing on finding hotel accommodations that will best fit our guests needs

Requirements:

- Must be a bachelor/ college degree holder
- Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills in any of the following languages: English, Spanish, or Japanese
- Customer service and sales skills an advantage
- Education and experience in the hospitality or IT industry an advantage
- Must be willing to work on a rotating shift
- Fresh graduates are encouraged to apply

**Japanese-speaking CSR's must be native speakers and will be working on a day shift*

LIAISON OFFICER

Job Summary:

- Liaises with government agencies, banks, and travel agencies as needed
- Sorts and delivers mails and small packages to company offices

Requirements:

- Familiarity of Makati and Manila area is a must
- Conversant in English
- Willing to work on a shifting schedule
- Knowledgeable in Excel and Word
- Is capable of handling tasks under pressure
- Possesses excellent work ethics and values
- Experience in a multinational company an advantage

REPORTING ANALYST

Job Summary:

- Supports strategic and tactical marketing and business issues for global clients
- Provides analytical support on operational and program structure issues for marketing programs
- Provides analysis and reporting for ongoing and adhoc projects
- Assists in compiling lists of email and direct mail recipients based on statistical models built by senior consultants using SAS querying tool

Requirements:

- Must have a degree in Business, Marketing, Statistics, Economics, Computer Science or any related field
- At least 1 year working with relational decision-support databases (preferably a data warehousing environment), along with demonstrated quantitative skills
- Strong experience with SAS/SQL
- Has working knowledge in Microsoft Access
- Must be able to prioritize and handle multiple projects
- Good communication skills
- Must be able to work with minimal supervision

IHG is on a journey to become one of the very best companies in the world. We're an international hotel company that always tries to see the world through the eyes of others.

Our people lie at the heart of our business - the ones who make a difference - the ones who care, listen, learn and work ensuring our customers receive outstanding service and memorable experiences.

Other available positions:
E-Contacts Web Support, Hotel Performance Support Specialists and Data Management Coordinators.

IHG Employees enjoy:
Competitive Salary and Benefit Packages, Results-Oriented Training and Development, Aggressive Internal Promotion, Performance Bonuses, Sales Incentives, Non-Taxable Allowances, Attendance Bonus, Merit Increase, Employee Referral Incentive, Educational Assistance, Discounts in all of our hotels worldwide

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTELS & RESORTS · CROWNE PLAZA HOTELS & RESORTS · HOTEL indigo. · Holiday Inn HOTELS · RESORTS · Holiday Inn EXPRESS · STAYBRIDGE SUITES · CANDLEWOOD SUITES

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

REGISTERED MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

(Licensed by PRC)

For the Position: **HVAC DESIGN ENGINEERS**

1. Registered ME. Preferably experienced with design, coordination, and cost estimates of air conditioning, ventilation, and heating systems. Good command of verbal and written English. Attractive salary package.
2. Fresh graduates of BSME to undergo 3 to 6 months of training in HVAC design and on the job assignments with attractive allowances, good salary package after training to be offered to outstanding trainees.

For the position of: **AUTOCAD ENCODERS**

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Direct Line: (078) 897-1503

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Interested applicants may apply in person with your bio-data/latest picture & other credentials to:

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54 Libertad St., Pasay City
(in front of DFA)
look for Jasmin Nuñez

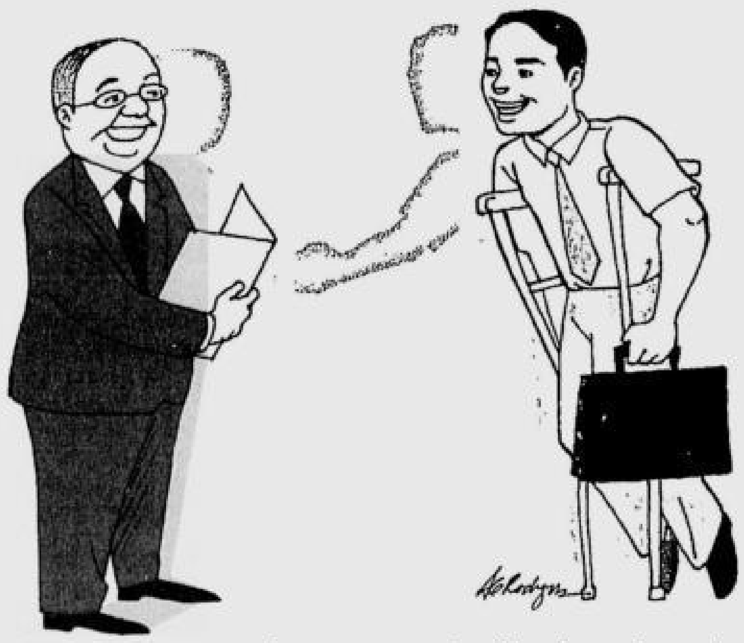
E-mail: workingpeople@inquirer.com.ph.

Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Text us your feedback: inquirer paw name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Careers for persons with disability

Ma. Esther Salcedo-Posadas
Contributor



YES, YOU READ IT RIGHT. Even persons with disability can now have careers. John (not his real name) met a roller-coaster accident while at the prime of his youth. At the moment, he lives life as a quadriplegic where he only has his head and two fingers functioning. This grave limitation didn't stop him from starting his own online business that to this day continues to exist. This is a true story of one great person who has overcome many challenges.

If you or your children have similar stories to tell, be aware that we are now in the 21st century and there is no reason to grieve. It is one moment in history when opportunity abounds. Here are a few career ideas for persons with disability. Perhaps companies can also take note and see how they can accommodate talented workers:

Call center agent. If you are stricken with polio or perhaps unable to walk, this does not exempt you from the opportunity of working as a call center agent. After all, most of the work would require the use of your voice and hands.

Someone in a wheelchair may still very well fit into the picture as long as the employer can make some logistical or space adjustments. Especially with the high demand for talented personnel, call centers would do well to tap into the geniuses of persons with disability.

Fast-food server. Back in the '70s, the Luneta Park had this one restaurant that employed deaf and mute servers. If you had not actually experienced it, you may find it hard to visualize how the orders were processed. Fast-food companies may wish to employ deaf or mute persons by providing training and a badge that perhaps alerts the customers to the condition. A little accommodation such as an order form to fill up or someone taking the order and then delegating to the mute or deaf server, may be considered.

Researcher/Analyst/Teacher/Writer. Not all disability affects a person's mental capacities. As such, many disabled persons are still capable of turning out highly intellectual work. Don't miss out hiring such talent just because of a limited physical limitation.

Entrepreneur. Of course, there's nothing like being your own boss. With a small investment on a computer and Internet connection, you can unearth many possibilities. Aim to educate yourself about the new world economy so you can maximize its potential.

Painter/Artist. Only you can limit yourself to what can be achieved. There is, in existence, a group of disabled persons who paint masterpieces using their feet and mouths. During Christmas, they sell their artwork also through printed blank cards. Truly, there are many ways to rise above a dire situation.

In the end, you choose how you want your life to turn out. If you are someone with disability, you can either focus on what you don't have or that which you still possess. Many have overcome insurmountable obstacles that clearly demonstrate the limitless possibilities of the human spirit.

'Why am I being 'punished' for being efficient?'

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Josie O. Santamaria

I WAS HIRED BY MY PRESENT company more than two years ago. Because I'm hardworking, technically competent and I always get all my tasks done before the deadlines set, my boss praises me no end. The problem is he keeps giving me additional responsibilities which are not within my job description, yet, I don't get performance bonuses or merit increases. I don't know if my boss will recommend me for promotion. Sometimes I feel I'm being "punished" for being efficient and am tempted to slow down especially since my fellow employees think I want to be the "bida." I don't know what to do.

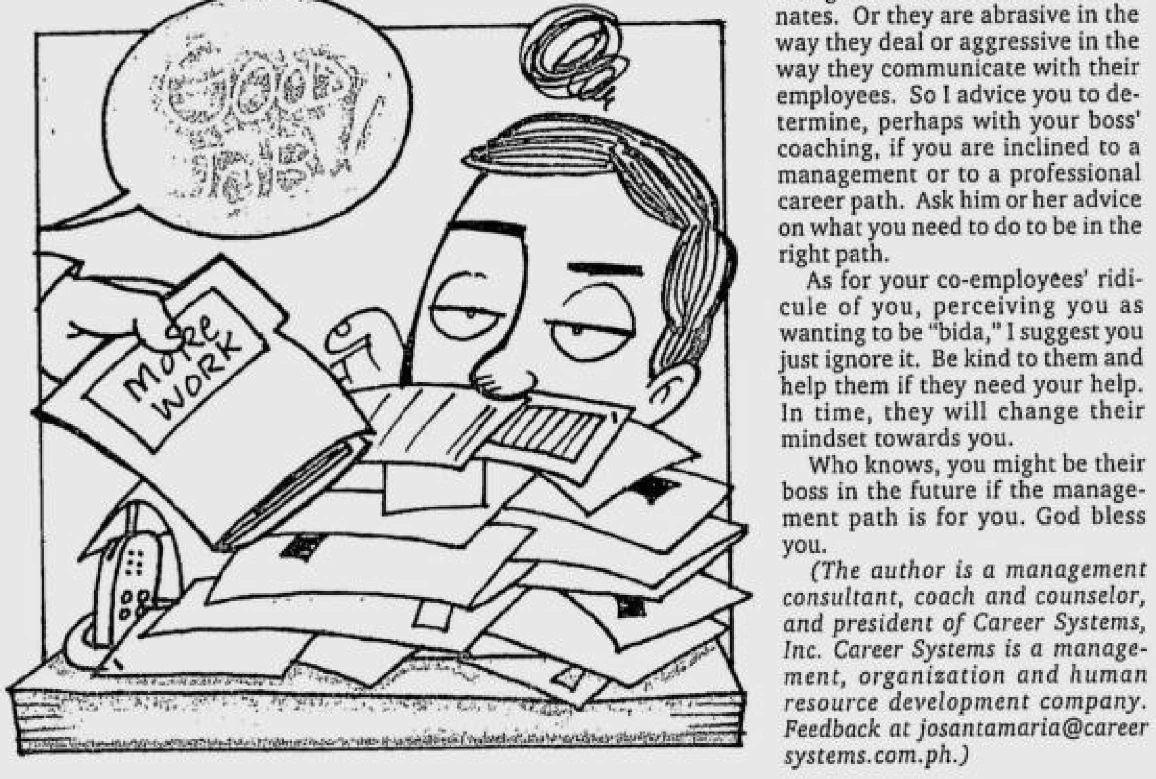
Mr. Distraught

You are disappointed that for all your efficiency, you are not getting any performance bonus nor merit increase. You are not also told of your promotability. On top of this, your co-employees ridicule you for wanting to play hero. You don't seem to appreciate the positive feedback your boss gives you and don't see that being given additional responsibilities is a sign of recognition.

What is your career goal, i.e., what do you want to be in, say, five years? You talk about promotion in your company. What position in your company do you see yourself occupying in five years' time? Will this position involve doing work that is of interest to you, will use your skills and talents, and enable you to bring out and develop your potentials? Getting a pay is one of the consequences of promotion to a higher position; performance bonus and/or merit increase are rewards for exceeding performance targets, and don't require promotion.

Your boss is not punishing you by giving you additional tasks. He is testing your abilities if you are ready for promotion to a higher position. He cannot tell you that he will be recommending you for a higher position because it might raise certain expectations that may not be fulfilled. Being given more responsibilities is a sign that he is recognizing your abilities to do more. Remember the parable of Jesus regarding three servants entrusted by their master with the latter's possessions, the amount given depended on their abilities (Matthew 25:14-30). When the master returned after a long journey, he called his three servants to give an accounting of the talents entrusted to each of them. Two servants who were entrusted with five and two talents, respectively, traded them so they doubled the talents given them.

The master did two things: he commended them and gave them more responsibilities. The third servant, who had been given only one talent, hid it because he was afraid that his master, whom he perceived to be a demanding person, harvesting where he did not scatter, would berate him.



That was exactly what the master did: not only did the master scold and punish him; he had the one talent taken away from him and given to the servant who had 10 talents. Jesus concluded the parable by saying: "For everyone who has, more will be given; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

I hope you will change your mindset that being given additional tasks is a "punishment"; rather see it as a sign of recognition and your boss' way of determining how much and how far you can go. He is also observing your attitudes towards being given additional responsibilities. Do you accept these additional responsibilities cheerfully, or do you whine and complain which you seem to be doing now.

Since your boss obviously likes you, I suggest you go to him or her and ask about your chances for promotion and by when. Let me tell you that most companies have two kinds of career paths: the management path and the professional/technical path. The management path is for those with leadership abilities and potentials. As they advance in their career, they are given greater and more responsibilities with people under them whom they develop so that the tasks they accomplish contribute to the achievement of goals and objectives. As they get up the corporate ladder, these managers perform less and less of the technical tasks they had enjoyed doing as they focus on the "bigger picture" by achieving strategic goals and objectives.

The professional/technical path is for those who are very competent in doing the tasks related to a certain function (e.g., finance, marketing and sales, IT, production, quality assurance, etc.) but do not have the abilities to lead people. They rise in their profession thru increasing levels and complexities of competencies.

Unfortunately, those companies, which do not have a dual career path, give recognition to the technically competent people by putting them in the management path, thereby promoting them to a level of incompetence. These managers have poor people skills. They either avoid interacting with their employees, as they enjoy doing the work of their subordinates. Or they are abrasive in the way they deal or aggressive in the way they communicate with their employees. So I advice you to determine, perhaps with your boss' coaching, if you are inclined to a management or to a professional career path. Ask him or her advice on what you need to do to be in the right path.

As for your co-employees' ridicule of you, perceiving you as wanting to be "bida," I suggest you just ignore it. Be kind to them and help them if they need your help. In time, they will change their mindset towards you.

Who knows, you might be their boss in the future if the management path is for you. God bless you.

(The author is a management consultant, coach and counselor, and president of Career Systems, Inc. Career Systems is a management, organization and human resource development company. Feedback at josantamaria@careersystems.com.ph.)

Gospel. Luke 13:22-30
He answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough."

A piece of paradise

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

JESUS TEACHES THAT THOSE WHO WISH TO BE SAVED OR BE happy in the kingdom of heaven should work hard to get there. He cautions the listeners that the entrance to God's kingdom is like a narrow gate where one should be strong enough to get through. He seems to show us then, that we have to earn paradise or eternal salvation like a good, dedicated, efficient and productive worker who receives the well-deserved salary and other benefits. He seems to stress the point here, that while God readily gives His life to anyone who wants it—who freely chooses Him over anything else—and while He pours all the necessary graces to us, we must show our counterpart, no matter how little compared to what God does, through our firm and determined efforts to abide in God even here in our earthly life. Working is a great part of our life; it could be an expression of our desire to get to heaven and it could also be an essential part of our efforts to deserve the eternal reward. Our experiences at work could teach us important lessons in our spiritual struggle to reach heavenly perfection.

Disciplining our bodies and our other energies in the rigors of hard work, enduring patiently the harsh and punishing work conditions, finding meaning in the monotonous and boring rhythm of our job, humbly obeying some eccentric superiors, actively caring for the antipathetic coworkers, resisting temptations to cheat on our jobs, and so on—are but few of the many learning experiences we can get in the workplace. Furthermore, going through these painful experiences at work with Jesus in our minds and hearts could transform them into a small piece of paradise in our life. *(E-mail the author at mfvg@skyinet.net)*

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Husgado

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

MY WORK—AND MY INTEREST IN OTHER PEOPLE'S WORK—TAKES me to places that make work even more interesting. Like this cave called Husgado, on Mt. Banahaw, believed by many to be a "power spot" in the Philippines. Shaped like a hill and carved by nature out of solid rock, Husgado has a tunnel that winds from the entry near the base to the exit at its crown. It is said that the tunnel constricts and expands to accommodate any size of person who dares to snake through it. Husgado awes visitors, particularly when told that only the pure of heart can emerge from it unharmed. Trying it myself years ago—to test the purity of my heart, ha ha!—I observed that the local children treated it like a playground fixture, chasing one another in and out of it with glee.

Husgado is literally and figuratively like the narrow gate our Lord speaks of in today's Gospel. In the workplace, the narrow gate represents the rules and regulations we are expected to follow. We are tried and judged as workers according to our observance of these, and our satisfaction at work in turn hinges on our fidelity to these rules and regulations. If as people who claim to be Christians we do what is expected of us, and we do as Jesus inspires us to do, there is no way we cannot find happiness in our work—no matter that our bosses and coworkers behave like two-legged vipers and scorpions around us. Like the pilgrims and tourists who navigate the Husgado we'll emerge from even the tightest workplace situation with nary a scratch, because an impeccable work ethics keeps us above reproach.

With the Lord as our invisible Boss, obedience comes naturally, the daily grind converts into fun, and work becomes child's play. *(E-mail the author at teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)*

Anger may lead to decrease in a woman's status

NEW YORK—A MAN WHO GETS angry at work may well be admired for it but a woman who shows anger in the workplace is liable to be seen as "out of control" and incompetent, according to a new study presented on Friday.

What's more, the finding may have implications for Hillary Clinton as she attempts to become the first female US president, according to its author Victoria Brescoll, a post-doctoral scholar at Yale University.

GRRRR
OUT OF CONTROL
IN COM PE TENT

Her research paper "When Can Angry Women Get Ahead?" noted that Clinton was described last year by a leading Republican as "too angry to be elected president." Previous research has indicated that anger can communicate that an individual feels entitled to dominate others, and therefore perhaps is. But in a paper to be delivered at a weekend conference, Brescoll said such studies focused on men.

Job interview

"As Senator Clinton's experience suggests, however, for a professional woman anger expression may lead to a decrease rather than an increase in her status," Brescoll wrote.

She conducted three tests in which men and women recruited randomly watched videos of a job interview and were asked to rate the applicant's status and assign them a salary.

In the first, the scripts were identical except where the candidate described feeling either angry or sad about losing an account due to a colleague's late arrival at a meeting.

Participants conferred the most status on the man who said he was angry, the second most on the woman who said she was sad, slightly less on the man who said he was sad, and least of all by a sizable margin on the woman who said she was angry.

The average salary assigned to the angry man was almost $38,000 compared to about $23,500 for the angry woman and in the region of $30,000 for the other two candidates.

In a second experiment, the script was similar except that the job applicant also described his or her current occupation as a trainee or a senior executive.

Less competent

"Participants rated the angry female CEO as significantly less competent than all of the other targets, including even the angry female trainee," Brescoll wrote. She said they viewed angry females as significantly more "out of control." That impacted salaries.

Unemotional women were assigned on average $55,384 compared to $32,902 for the angry ones. Male executive candidates were assigned more than trainees, regardless of anger, with an average $73,643.

Higher salary

A third experiment tested whether a good reason for anger made any difference. The script was changed so that some angry candidates explained that the coworker who arrived late had lied beforehand, indicating he had directions to the meeting.

Sure enough, the angry woman with a good reason to be angry was awarded a much higher salary than the angry woman who provided no excuse, though it was still less than the men.

The study, to be presented this weekend at the annual meeting of the Academy of Management, a research and teaching organization with nearly 17,000 members, found similar attitudes to anger among male and female participants.

"It's an attitude that is not conscious," Brescoll said.

"People are hardly aware of it." Brescoll said the findings revealed a "difficult paradox" for professional women—while anger can serve as a powerful tool to achieve status at work, women may have to behave calmly in order to be seen as rational.

Reuters

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Candidates must have completed a degree in BS Chemistry, Chemical Engineering or Industrial Engineering, not over 40 years of age, equipped with at least 2 years' experience in managing the Quality Assurance Department of a consumer product manufacturing company. Process-oriented, highly analytical and can effectively direct and manage people.

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Look for Ms. CES

Position Title : **Law Reform Specialist III**
Agency . University of the Philippines
Place of Assignment : U.P. Law Complex
Salary Grade : 20
Item No. : 1149-2
DBM Unique : LWRS3-6-1998

Qualification

1. L1.M. degree and member of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines;
   2 years of experience in legal research or practice of law or 1 year of full-time teaching in a law school;
   and R.A. 1080; or
2. L1.B. degree and member of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines;
   3 years of experience in legal research or practice of law or 2 years of full-time teaching in a law school;
   4 hours of relevant training;
   and R.A. 1080

Position Title : **University Research Associate I**
Agency : University of the Philippines
Place of Assignment : U.P. Law Complex
Salary Grade : 12
Item No. : 1165-6
DBM Unique : UNIRA1-285-1998

Qualification
AB or BS degree relevant to the nature of the work in the position; Career Service (Professional) or Second Level Eligibility

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Employment Opportunities

Senior Engineering Officer
(Ref. No. EXT-NO07-077(4)-OAFA-FM)

Responsibilities

The position is primarily responsible for managing and coordinating engineering activities on a shift basis for the safe, efficient and economic operation and maintenance of ADB's engineering services including the implementation of rehabilitation and upgrading projects being undertaken by the Facilities Planning and Management Unit (OAFA-FM).

Reporting Arrangement

The position reports to the Head, OAFA-FM.

Selection Criteria

Specific criteria include: (i) a Bachelor's degree in Engineering; Licensed professional engineer in either Electrical or Mechanical Engineering; (ii) at least ten years of work experience in building engineering and maintenance services within a large organization; (iii) thorough knowledge of multilateral organizations' operation of building services and equipment, maintenance, repair and installation requirements as well as the safety rules and regulations; (iv) extensive theoretical knowledge of engineering techniques and standard software prevalent in multilateral organizations; (v) awareness of the application of Environment Health and Safety Management System in Building Facilities and Engineering Operation; (vi) proven supervisory experience and excellent engineering problem solving skills; and (vii) good command of written and spoken English.

Associate Financial System Analyst
(Ref. No. EXT-AS07-125(4)-CTLA-FIS)

Responsibilities

The position is responsible for taking the functional lead for the various financial information systems of Controller's Loan Administration Division by assisting in the design, development and maintenance of specialized reports; and ensuring smooth and efficient operation of these systems.

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to the Assistant Controller, designated Professional Staff and/or National Officer.

Selection Criteria

Specific criteria include: (i) a Bachelor degree in Business Administration major in Accounting, Computer Science, or Finance with in-depth knowledge of Information Technology and computer applications; (ii) at least five years experience in business application development, systems designs and analysis with working experience in the use of financial information systems; (iii) more than seven years combined on-the-job training with practical experience in system analysis, grants, loans or technical assistance processing; (iv) good understanding of a multilateral institution's operations with knowledge in system analysis and design; (v) proven supervisory, interpersonal and problem-solving capabilities; (vi) proficiency in different computer software commonly used in a multilateral institution; (vii) familiarity with application softwares such as Oracle, Microsoft Word, Excel, Lotus Notes, Lotus Notes Mail and in-depth knowledge of mainframe systems; (viii) excellent oral and written communication skills in English; and (ix) good interpersonal communication and writing skills, and ability to supervise staff and promote team work.

For more details about the positions, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its national officers locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting the **Ref. No. of the position** and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: LS-jobs@adb.org by 9 July 2007.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Asian Development Bank ADB

www.adb.org

Business Support Officer
Office of Information Systems and Technology

Responsibilities

The position is responsible for designing, developing, implementing, and maintaining medium to large-scale web and collaborative application systems involving medium to high-level technical complexity, either through leadership of an independent project team or through participation in major systems development projects as a principal member.

Reporting Arrangement

The position reports to the Director and/or designated Professional Staff.

Selection Criteria

Bachelor's degree in Management Information System, Computer Science, Business Administration, Accounting or related areas; at least 5 years experience in development and implementation of large-scale database applications, 2 years of which must have been in the design of such systems; preferably at least 3 years experience in multilateral organizations' applications; and 1 year in team leadership for application systems development/implementation projects; proficiency in systems analysis and design, and in the preparation of functional and detailed specifications; proficiency in web and collaborative technologies such as Domino/Lotus Notes, HTML, XML, Javascript, PHP, and MySQL; excellent experience in providing support for Application Software packages; excellent working knowledge in the system development/implementation and hardware/software platforms used in multilateral organizations; and proficiency in oral and written communication skills.

For more details about the position, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp

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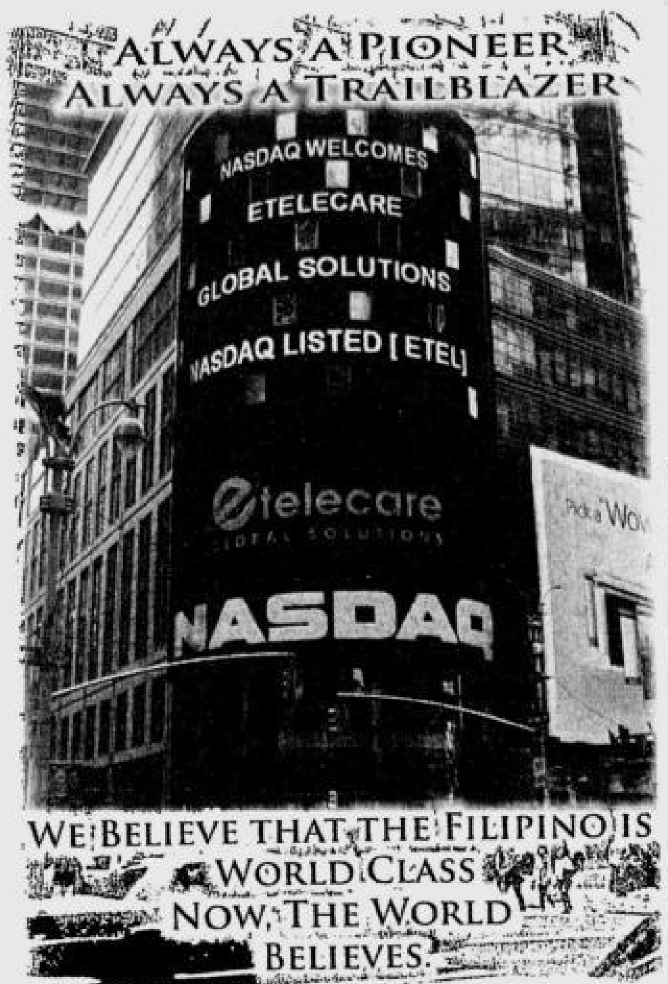

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Please address your communications to:

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For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela O. Rivera or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

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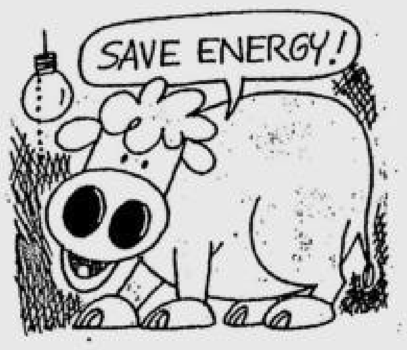

SAVE ENERGY!

Junior INQUIRER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2007 ✦ 8 PAGES ✦ VOLUME 10, NUMBER 74

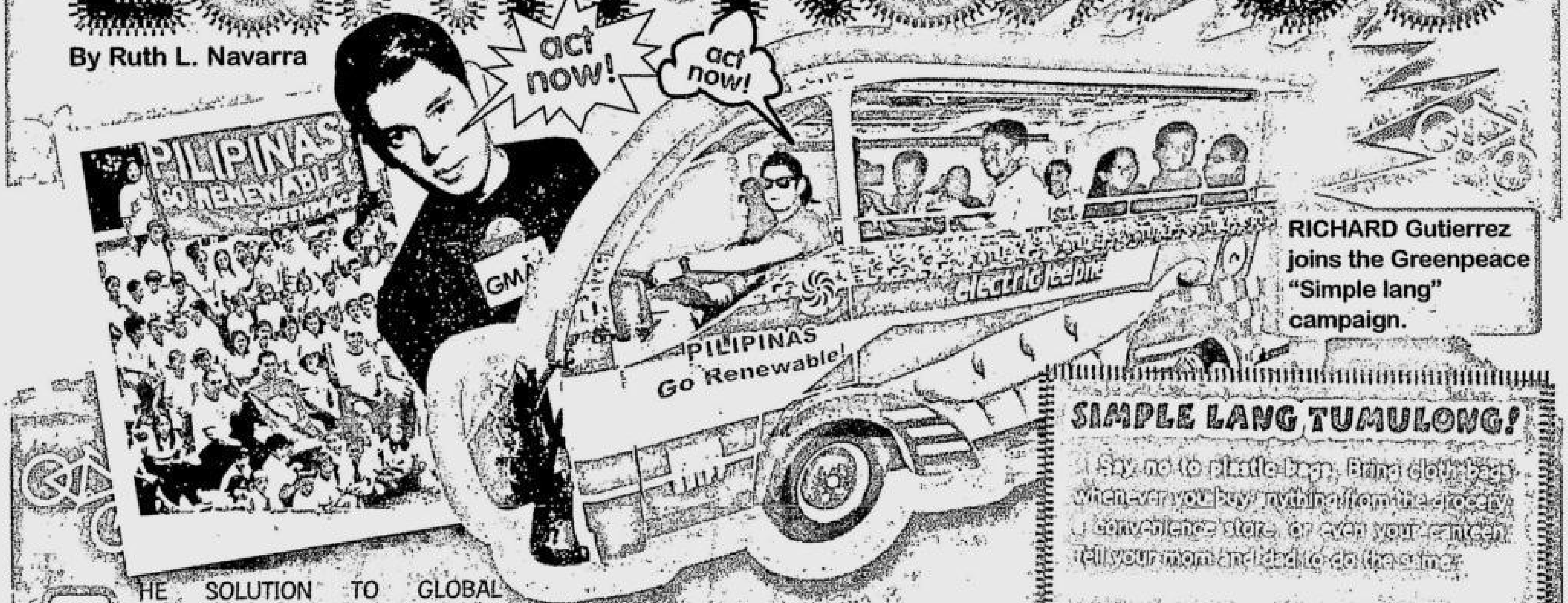
E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Meet the swimming siblings: Raphael, Paolo and Samantha
Page 5

Easy Earth Rescue

By Ruth L. Navarra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Go Renewable!

RICHARD Gutierrez joins the Greenpeace "Simple lang" campaign.

THE SOLUTION TO GLOBAL warming, one of the biggest problems that we are now facing, can be the simplest of actions.

"My parents tell me of a time when their surroundings were cleaner and the air fresher. If things don't change for the better, what could my children look forward to?" asks Mariecon Sarabia, 14.

Luckily, there are ways to make sure that the children of the future can still look forward to enjoying the wonders and comforts of our planet. Greenpeace Southeast Asia introduced Mariecon and her schoolmates in Sienna College to "Simple lang" acts, easy tasks to help conserve energy. Greenpeace is an international organization that works for the preservation of the world's natural resources.

Greenpeace says they focus on energy conservation because most of our electricity comes from coal-fired power plants. Burning fossil fuels like coal emits large amounts of carbon dioxide, which contribute to climate change and global warming.

The "Simple lang" acts can easily be integrated to your daily routine. It's as simple as switching off lights, computers, televisions and other electrical appliances and equipment when not in use. And, you shouldn't stop at switching them off. It's important to remember to unplug them, because appliances that are on standby mode still consume energy.

The energy that you save in one day may not seem much. But imagine how much energy will be saved if all the kids in the world do it 365 days a year!

When small things add up, big things happen. And the change can start with you.

SIMPLE LANG TUMULONG!

Say no to plastic bags. Bring cloth bags whenever you buy anything from the grocery, convenience store, or even your canteen. Tell your mom and dad to do the same.

Plant. Natural gardens are not only more beautiful than decorative plastic plants, they also consume carbon dioxide.

Dry clothes under the sun. Discourage your parents or helpers from using tumble dryers. Instead, make use of the sun's heat.

Don't keep this a secret. Share what you know with your siblings, parents, relatives, classmates and friends.

Make a pledge. Promise to the earth that you will do "Simple lang" acts from now on. Sign pledge sheets when Greenpeace visits your school. You can also log on to www.greenpeace.org.ph/simplelang if you want to get regular tips and reminders about protecting the environment through e-mail. If you want to receive tips on your cell phone, you can type GREENPEACE and send to 2948.

Guyito's Corral
Maligayang Buwan ng Wika!

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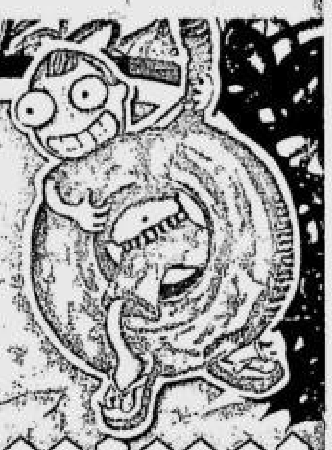

For or by Kids

SI ALMA

ALLEN GRACE J. CONTRERAS
15 YEARS OLD

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Ibinigay ng pinsan ko mula sa Antipolo
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Ako at ang manikang si Alma ay masaya
Sa bawat oras ay katabi at kayakap ko siya
Ngunit ayaw siyang makita nina Ate't Mama
Ang sabi nila'y hindi siya bago at maganda

Siya ay lumang-luma na at mata niya'y iisa
Punit –punit at kupas na kupas ang bestida
Buhok niya'y makapal at ang gulo-gulo pa
Nakangiti pa rin siya kahit na di kaaya-aya

Ang aking lumang manika'y biglang nawala
Wala siya sa ilalim ng aking mesa o sa kama
Labis ang aking pagluha nang siya'y makita
Nasa basurahan na siya't nginatngat ng daga!

Letters

HI JI!

Every Sunday morning, I eat my breakfast while reading my favorite newspaper.

What I like about JI is the things that you guys are writing. The articles are really for kids like me. My favorite part in the newspaper is "Guyito's Corral" because I get to read other kids' work. I also like "Wassup World" because I am informed of what is happening in our world.

I wrote a letter to you guys because I also want to express my feelings, like the other kids who write to you do. I am amazed to see kids express themselves freely in this newspaper. It's like JI is their "best friend."

Thank you for making this newspaper dedicated to kids like me! Good luck guys! Hope to write to you again soon!

Thanks BFF!
You're Welcome

—Alexa Fontanilla
10 years old
Quezon City

Thanks Alexa, we hope you do keep writing. We have a thank-you gift for you, please call Ate Dianne Villafuerte at 897-8808 local 340 to find out how you can claim it.

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Wassup World?

Erez, ISRAEL

Surf's the way

EIGHTY-SIX-YEAR-OLD Dorian Paskowitz, a surfer from Hawaii, carries two surfboards that are part of a personal donation to Palestinian youths in the Gaza Strip. Paskowitz donated over 12 surfboards to Gaza's small surfing community, in the belief that surfing can bring peace to Israelis and Palestinians. **AP**

Davao, PHILIPPINES

Tayo nang umindak!

YOUNG performers from the Doña Asuncion Elementary School show their skills in the Indak-Indak sa Kadalanan competition. This was held as part of the Kadayawan sa Dabaw festival, in celebration of Davao's cultural heritage and bountiful harvest. **Bing Gonzales/ Inquirer Mindanao Bureau**

Bangkok, THAILAND

Book nooks

BORED with your desk and chair? Try reading in these unique nooks at the Thailand Knowledge Park in Bangkok. The park is envisioned to promote genuine love for reading, and address the need for continuous learning among the Thai people. **AFP**

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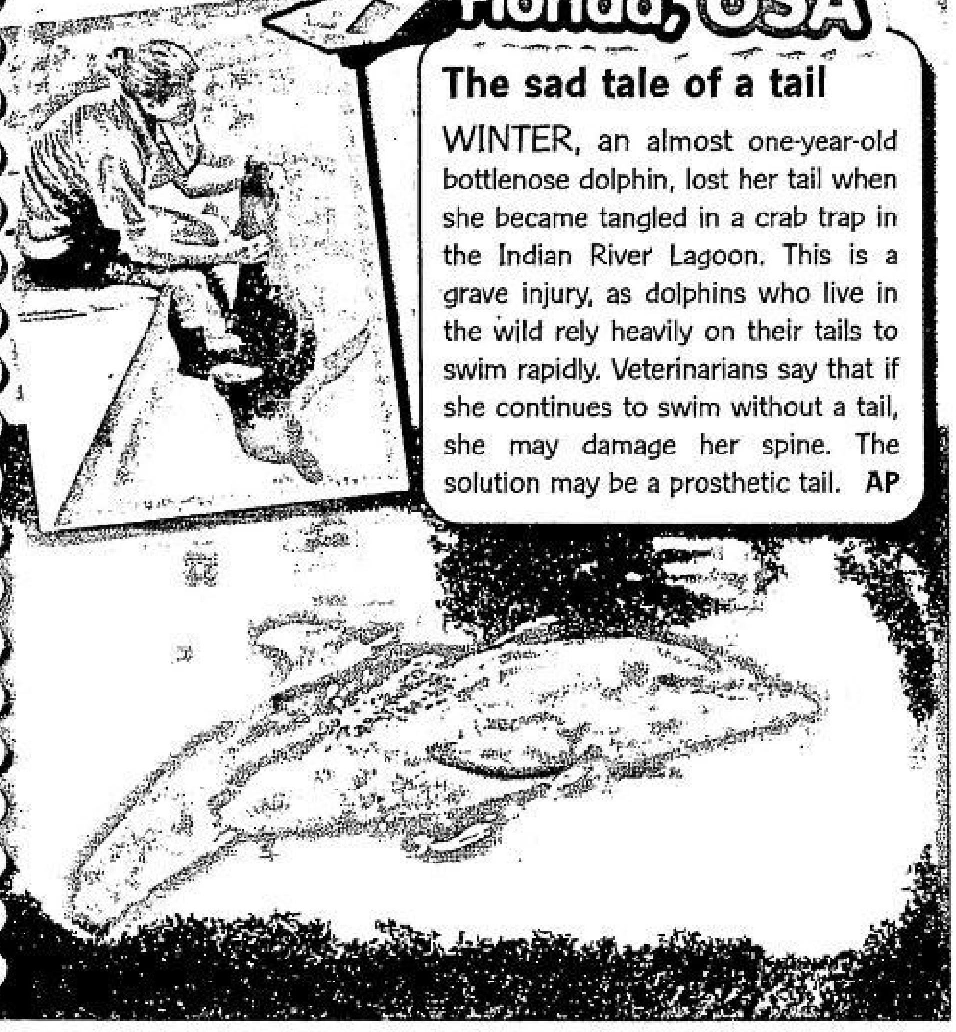

The sad tale of a tail

WINTER, an almost one-year-old bottlenose dolphin, lost her tail when she became tangled in a crab trap in the Indian River Lagoon. This is a grave injury, as dolphins who live in the wild rely heavily on their tails to swim rapidly. Veterinarians say that if she continues to swim without a tail, she may damage her spine. The solution may be a prosthetic tail. **AP**

Pisco, PERU

Quake in Peru

A BOY removes debris from his destroyed home in Tupac Amaru district in Pisco. Homeless victims of a devastating earthquake in Peru lined up for hours for blankets, food and water. **Reuters**

Think Out Loud!

How can you stop global warming?

I throw my garbage properly because I saw on TV that some waste can harm the environment.—**Kyle Catherine Talastas**, 8, Quezon City

I conserve water by using a glass when I brush my teeth.—**Francine Nicole Gaurano**, 6, Quezon City

I can start here at home. I will tell my parents not to buy CFCs (chlorofluoro carbon) like air fresheners.—**Christine Daria Bautista**, 11, Quezon City

I tell my parents not to burn plastic and styrofoam because it drills a hole in our ozone layer.—**John Paul Evangelista**, 12, Quezon City

I conserve energy by switching off the lights when not in use. —**David Payuran**, 12, Quezon City

When I clean up, I segregate the garbage properly. —**Veralyn Andrea Lape**, 7, Quezon City

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Kids 'r'rrific

Accidental Swimmers

By Ruth L. Navarra

WHEN THE MUTUC SIBLINGS LEFT triathlons for a few swimming lessons, they never looked back.

Raphael, 13, Paolo, 10, and Samantha, 8, are certified finishers of several triathlons. Although they are strong runners and cyclists, they always find themselves trailing behind others during swimming.

To improve their swimming skills, they decided to take lessons. Soon, they found themselves loving the sport. By 2006, they were participating in swimming competitions.

"Swimming is easier because I don't have to change into running shoes after a lap," says Samantha.

The siblings train for at least three hours a day, from Monday to Saturday.

They now look so formidable in the water that it seems you can leave them in the middle of the ocean, and be confident that they can swim safely back to the shore. But the same thing couldn't be said about Paolo a few years back.

[illegible]

When Paolo was younger, he nearly drowned at least four times. The experience left him unwilling to even touch the edge of the pool. To help him overcome his fear, his mom patiently stayed with him in the middle of the pool until he gained confidence.

Now, Paolo is garnering medals for his skills. In the recently concluded Mantas International Swim Meet in Hong Kong, he got the gold medal in the 100-meter and silver in the 50-meter breast stroke division. He beat 55 other swimmers from China, Great Britain, Indonesia, Thailand, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

His sister, Sam, earned the bronze in the 100-meter breast stroke division. This is the second time that the two joined the competition while it is the first for their Kuya Raphael.

"The other kids usually check my time card and tell me that I'm fast," says Samantha. "I don't like checking their cards."

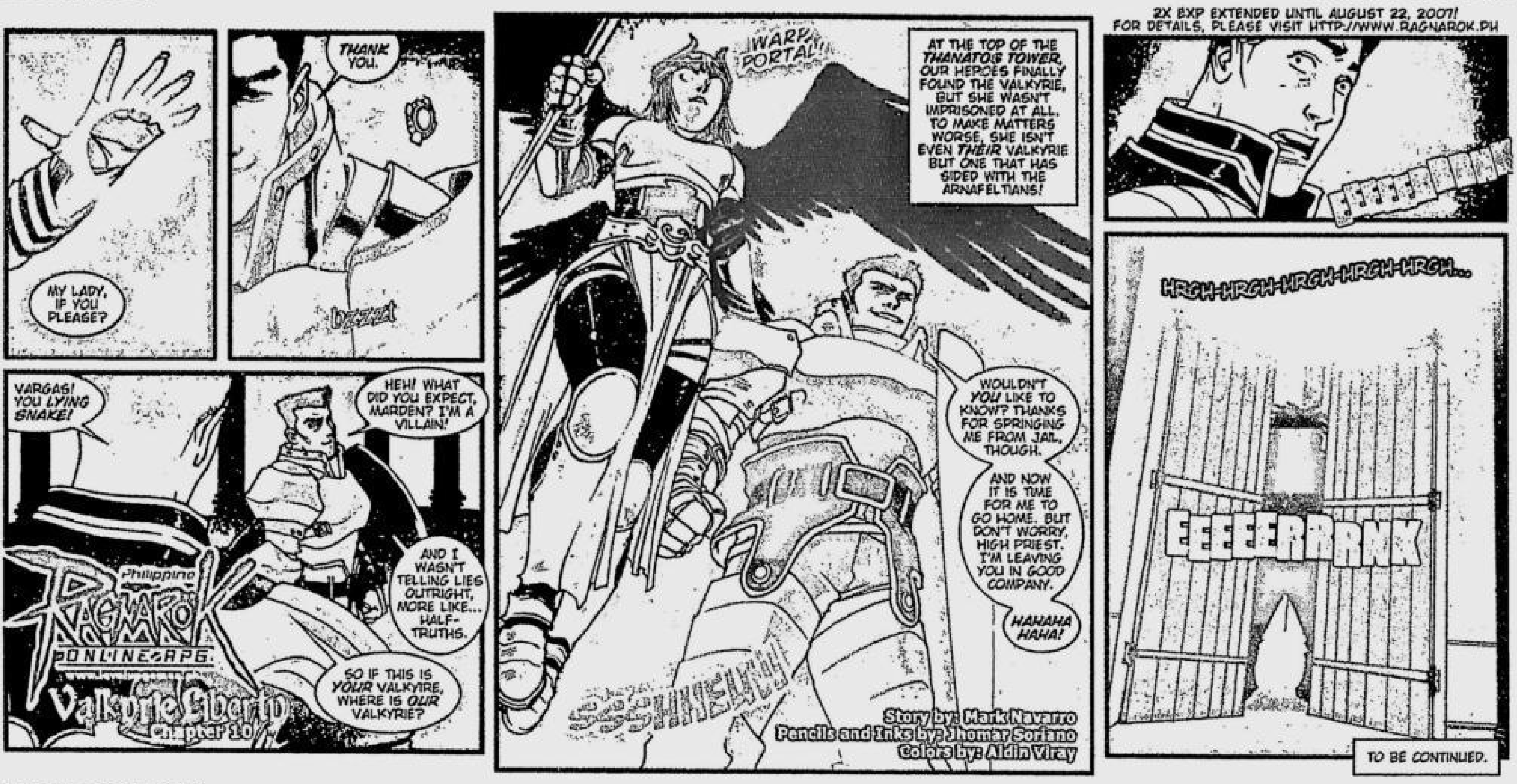
"Me too, I don't want to check my opponents' time cards because I might get nervous," says Raphael. "The best thing about swimming is when you beat your own record or time."

Whether it's beating their records, their weaknesses or their fears, these accidental swimmers are definitely winners.

RAGNAROK

BY LEVEL-UP GAMES

2X EXP EXTENDED UNTIL AUGUST 22, 2007!
FOR DETAILS, PLEASE VISIT HTTP://WWW.RAGNAROK.PH


MY LADY, IF YOU PLEAGE?
THANK YOU.
VARGAS! YOU LYING SNAKE!
HEH! WHAT DID YOU EXPECT, MARDEN? I'M A VILLAIN!
AND I WASN'T TELLING LIES OUTRIGHT, MORE LIKE... HALF-TRUTHS.
SO IF THIS IS YOUR VALKYIRE, WHERE IS OUR VALKYRIE?
Philippine RAGNAROK ONLINE RPG
Valkyrie Liberty
chapter 10
WARP PORTAL!
AT THE TOP OF THE THANATOS TOWER, OUR HEROES FINALLY FOUND THE VALKYRIE, BUT SHE WASN'T IMPRISONED AT ALL. TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, SHE ISN'T EVEN THEIR VALKYRIE BUT ONE THAT HAS SIDED WITH THE ARNAFELTIANS!
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW? THANKS FOR SPRINGING ME FROM JAIL, THOUGH.
AND NOW IT IS TIME FOR ME TO GO HOME. BUT DON'T WORRY, HIGH PRIEST. I'M LEAVING YOU IN GOOD COMPANY.
HAHAHA HAHA!
SSSHHHSHHH!!
HRGH-HRGH-HRGH-HRGH-HRGH...
EEEEERRRNK
TO BE CONTINUED.

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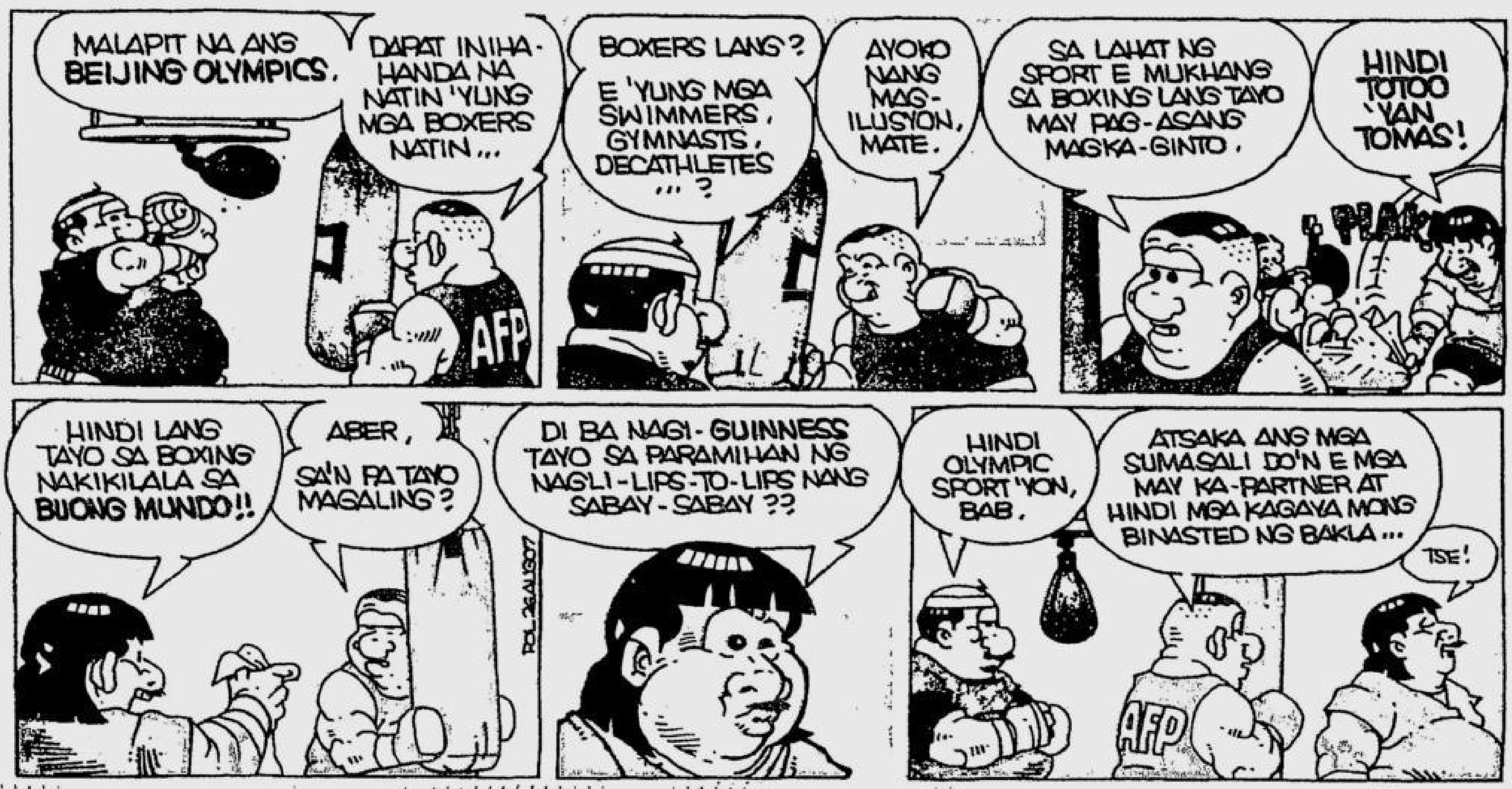
Story by: Mark Navarro
Pencils and Inks by: Jhomar Soriano
Colors by: Aldin Viray

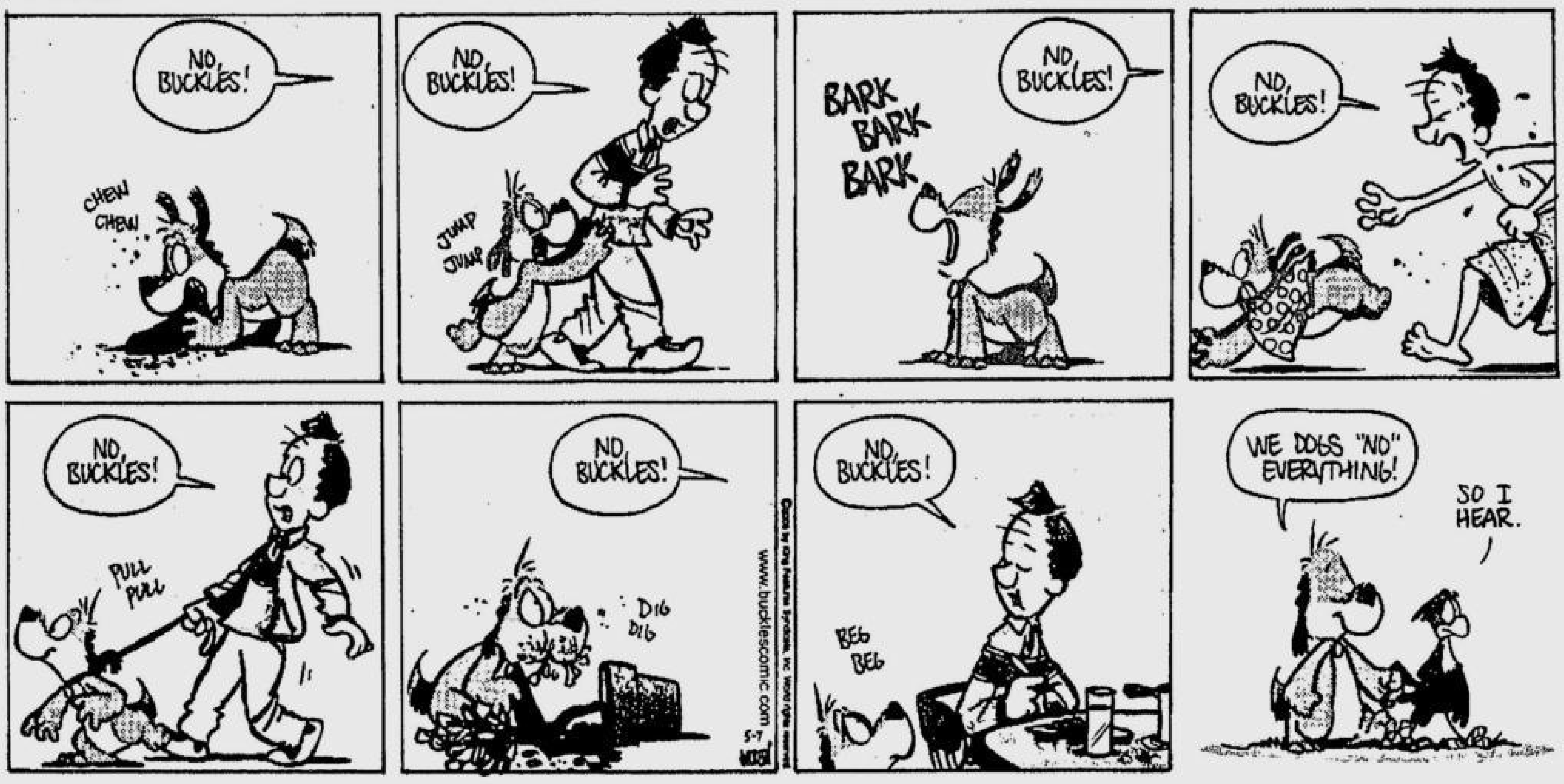
PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.


MALAPIT NA ANG BEIJING OLYMPICS.
DAPAT INIHA-HANDA NA NATIN 'YUNG MGA BOXERS NATIN...
BOXERS LANG?
E 'YUNG MGA SWIMMERS, GYMNASTS, DECATHLETES ...?
AYOKO NANG MAG-ILUSYON, MATE.
AFP
SA LAHAT NG SPORT E MUKHANG SA BOXING LANG TAYO MAY PAG-ASANG MAGKA-GINTO.
HINDI TOTOO 'YAN TOMAS!
PLAK!
HINDI LANG TAYO SA BOXING NAKIKILALA SA BUONG MUNDO!!
ABER, SA'N PA TAYO MAGALING?
POL 26AUG07
DI BA NAGI-GUINNESS TAYO SA PARAMIHAN NG NAGLI-LIPS-TO-LIPS NANG SABAY-SABAY??
HINDI OLYMPIC SPORT 'YON, BAB.
ATSAKA ANG MGA SUMASALI DO'N E MGA MAY KA-PARTNER AT HINDI MGA KAGAYA MONG BINASTED NG BAKLA...
TSE!
AFP

BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT


NO, BUCKLES!
CHEW CHEW
NO, BUCKLES!
JUMP JUMP
BARK BARK BARK
NO, BUCKLES!
NO, BUCKLES!
NO, BUCKLES!
PULL PULL
NO, BUCKLES!
DIG DIG
www.bucklescomic.com
5-7
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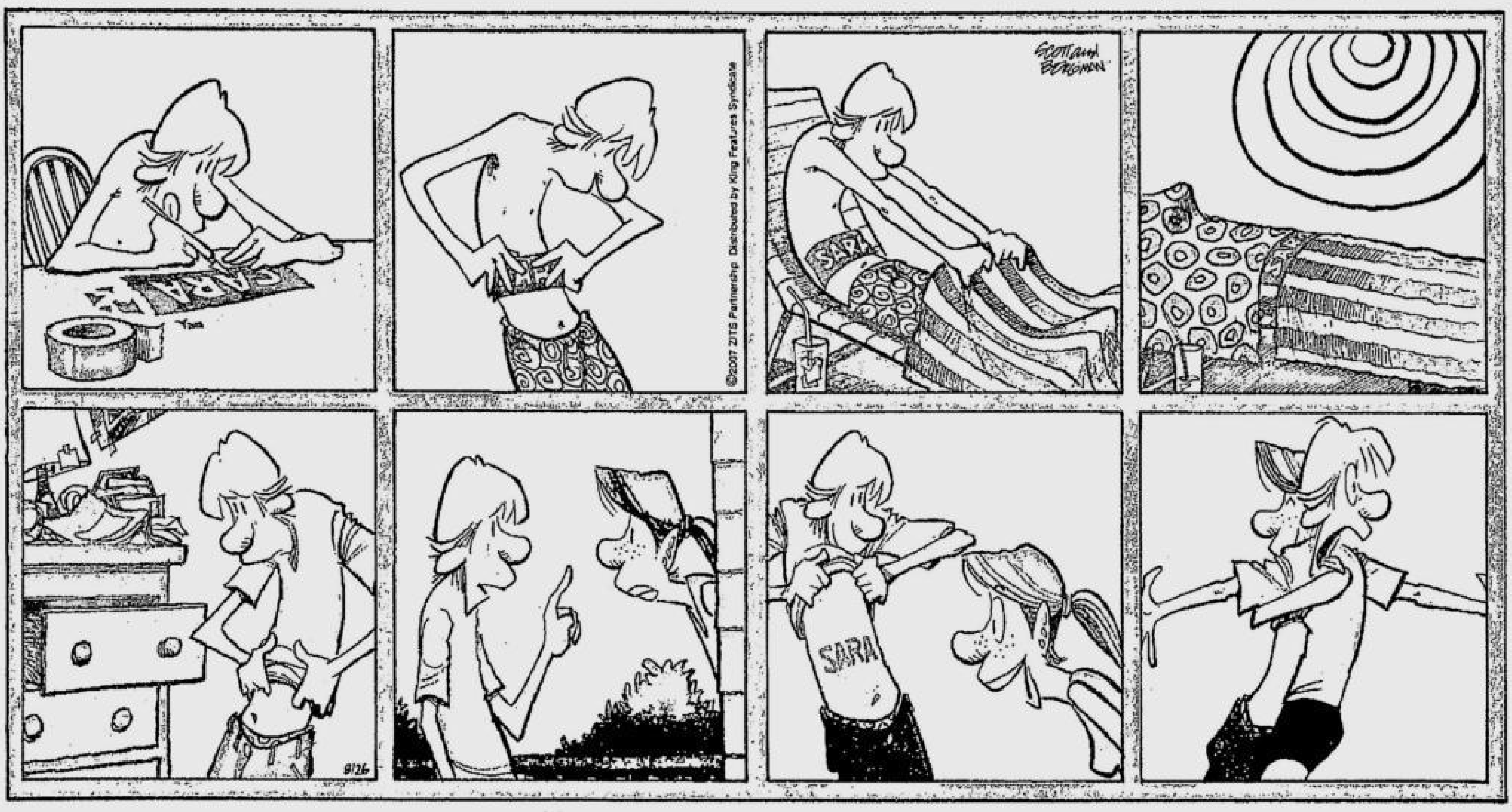
NO, BUCKLES!
BEG BEG
WE DOGS "NO" EVERYTHING!
SO I HEAR.

ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


SARA
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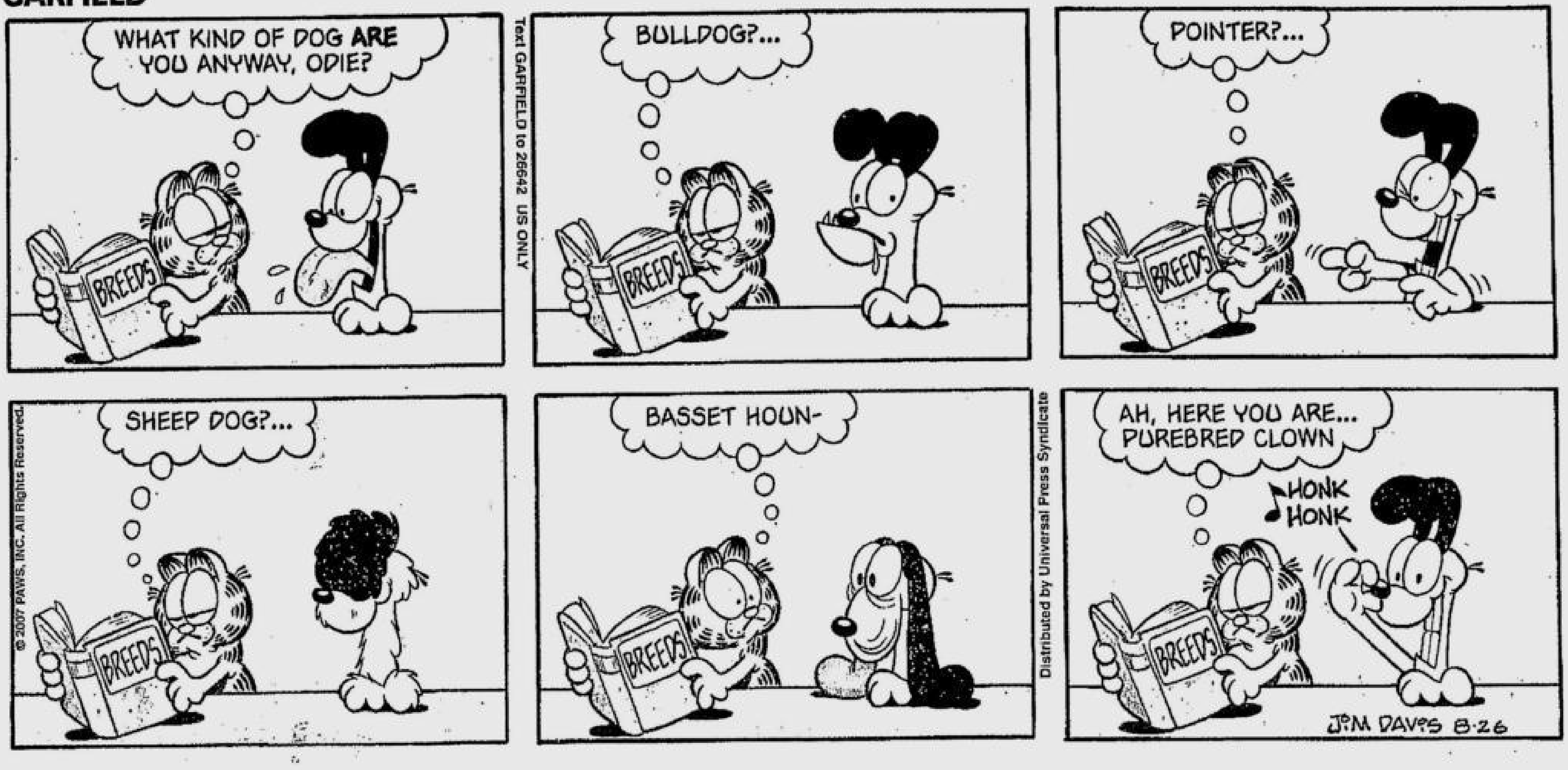
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


WHAT KIND OF DOG ARE YOU ANYWAY, ODIE?
BREEDS
Text GARFIELD to 26642 US ONLY
BULLDOG?...
POINTER?...
SHEEP DOG?...
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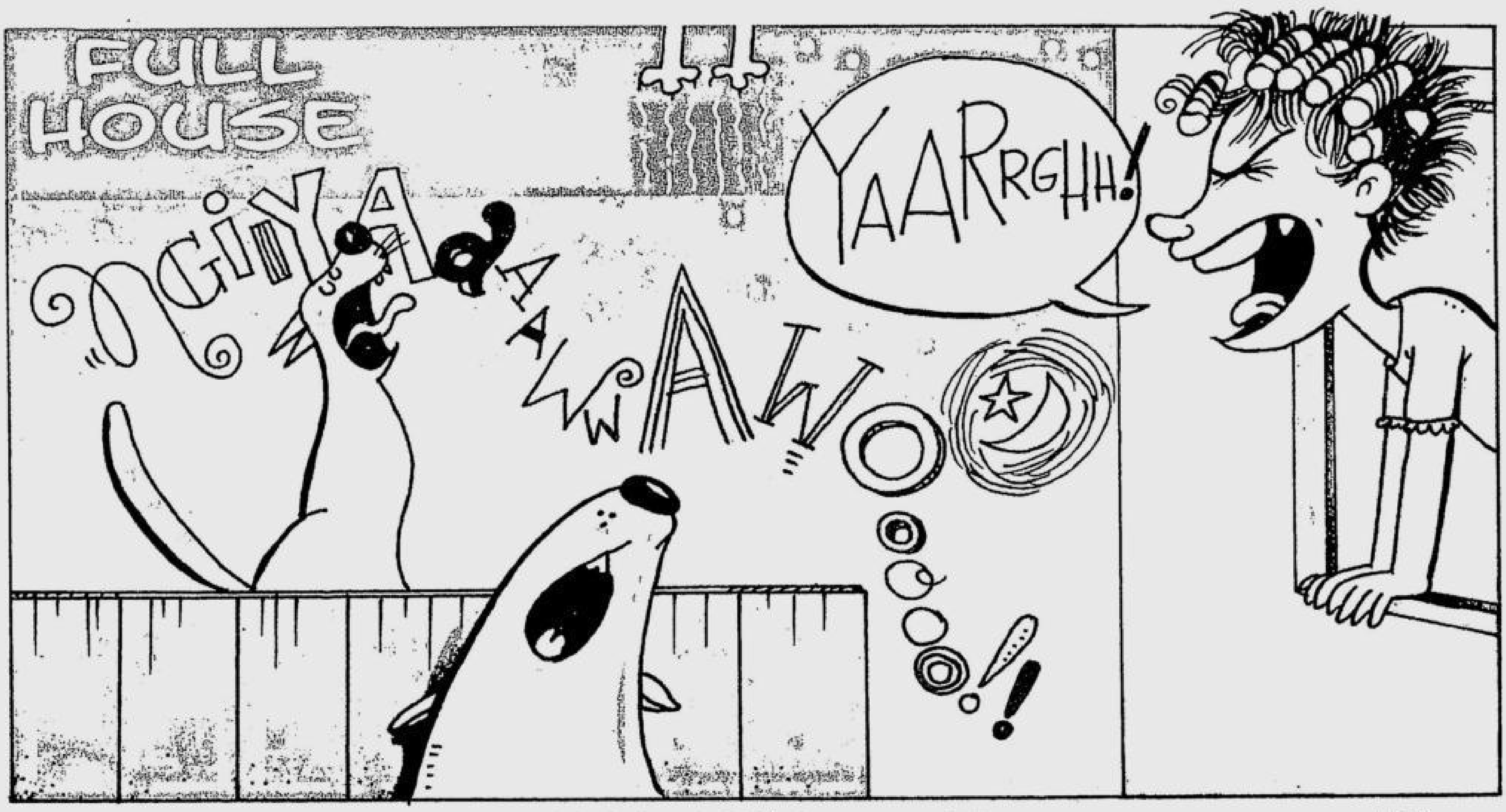
BASSET HOUN-
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
AH, HERE YOU ARE... PUREBRED CLOWN
HONK HONK
JIM DAVIS 8-26

FULL HOUSE

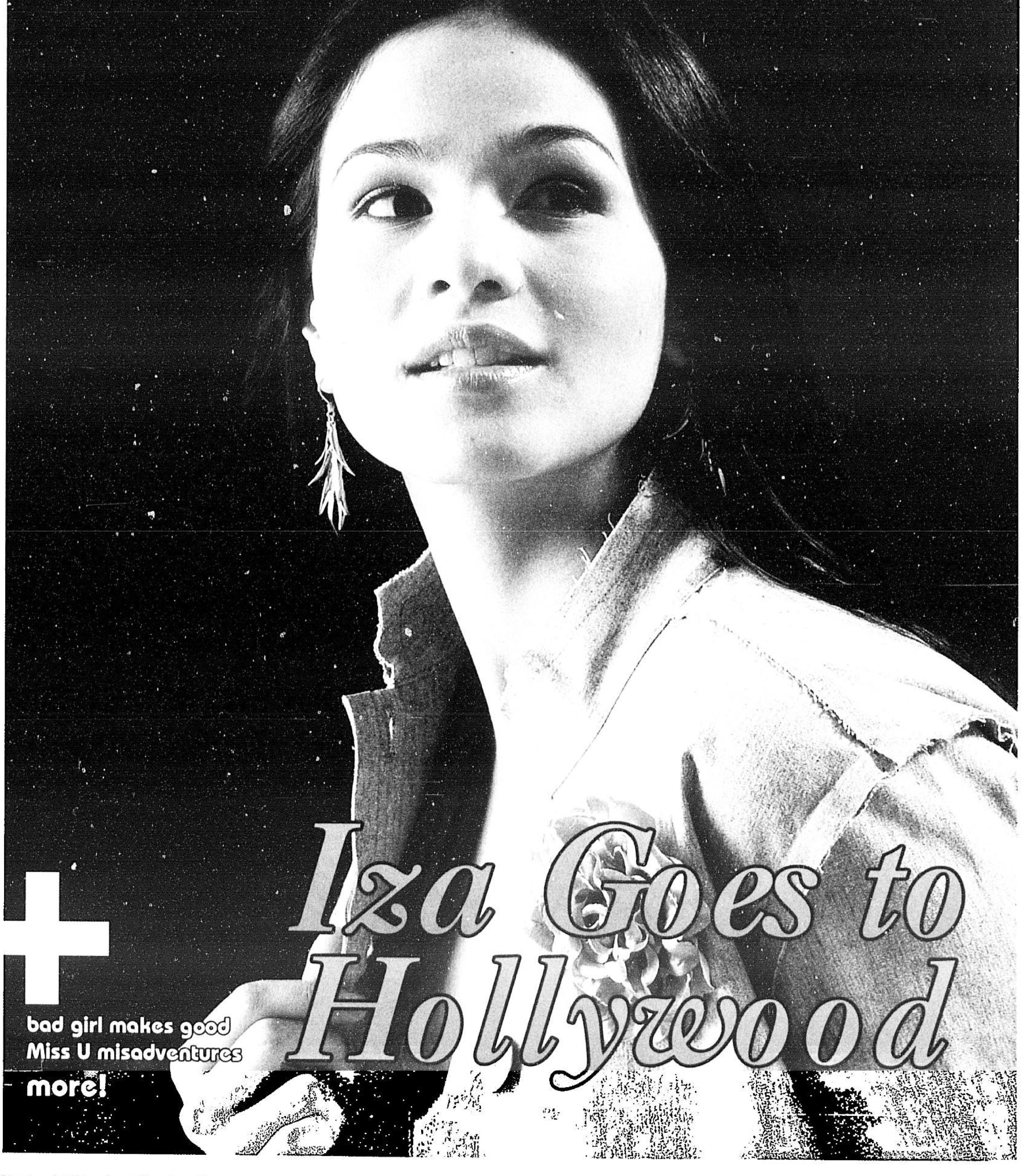
BY STEPH BRAVO


FULL HOUSE
NGIIYA
YAARRGHH!
AAWWAWOOooo!

*sunday*INQUIRER*magazine*

August 26, 2007

FREE



Iza Goes to Hollywood

+

bad girl makes good

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By Margaux Salcedo

The meat of it

Rib-eye from the Snake River Farm company

Here's why Wagyu is the most wanted of all the beef anywhere in the world- –plus some mouth-watering alternatives

IF 2006 was all about *foie gras*, 2007 is all about Wagyu. Of late it's been Wagyu here, Wagyu there, with many a restaurant bragging about their Wagyu steaks or Wagyu burgers and convincing many consumers to purchase burgers for over P200.

So what's up with the Wagyu? I stopped eating meat in 1996 and have only recently begun appreciating it again in fulfillment of my job description, so I've been getting dizzy trying to understand the differences between Wagyu and Kobe and Snake River and USDA Prime. Tell you the truth, all I need to be happy is Bulacan *pindang* (carabao beef tapa). But a serious carnivore should be clear, not confused, about her beef, so here's the lowdown.

Wagyu is a breed of cattle (Japanese). Kobe is a place (in Japan). All Kobe beef is Wagyu, but not all Wagyu beef is Kobe. Wagyu cattle are bred in different regions or prefectures in Japan, one of which is the Hyogo Prefecture, the capital of which is Kobe (hence the term Kobe beef). Here, the cattle are raised according to strict traditions and methods that result in the production of beef whose marbling is so remarkable, it has gained a reputation for surpassing US prime beef.

Prime is a grade of beef. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has eight grades, prime being the highest, having the highest marbling content. Marbling is the pattern of fat that is considered when grading beef: higher marbling content produces beef that is juicier, more tender and more flavorful.

Now before this Wagyu business came along, we relied on the American grading system and preferred certified American steaks, such as the Certified Black Angus (Angus is also a breed of cattle, originally from Scotland) or the USDA Prime. But the Japanese, instead of simply grading their beef after breeding, bred their cattle for best marbling. So, based on Japanese standards, using their 12-point marbling-score scale, while the most prized beef from Kobe would rank a 12, USDA prime would only have a ranking of 5 to 6.

Hence, the Kobe beef craze. Quality always finds recognition. With Kobe beef, the marbling is so dense that there is 90% fat and 10 percent meat (apparently that's a good thing). Suddenly everybody wanted a taste?

Now what do you do when everyone wants Wagyu? Well, the cattle made like Starbucks and multiplied around the world. See, the "Wagyu beef" designation can legally be applied to the meat from any cattle of the Wagyu breed; it refers to genetics, not to a place nor to how the cattle were raised and fed. So now there's Wagyu in the United Kingdom, Wagyu in the United States, and guess what ... Wagyu in Bukidnon. In most cases, these Wagyu are cross-bred with other cattle. This could be a good or a bad thing, depending on the cattle you cross-breed the Wagyu with.

With the Snake River Farm company in the United States, it's a good thing. They marry the Wagyu with US Black Angus to produce what they call American Kobe Beef. Like real Kobe beef, the quality of this beef is beyond USDA prime. So soft, they call it "butter knife steak," meaning you can cut it up using a butter knife instead of the regular steak knife. Melt in your mouth yum, it's endorsed even by Wolfgang Puck and used by no less than the Four Seasons Hotel.

The good news is that in this country, we actually have a range of these different kinds of steaks. I can tell you where to find them, too. Snake River Farm steaks are used by Chef J Gamboa in Cirkulo on Pasay Road, by Chef Carlo Miguel in Mezzaluna in Serendra, at Nanohana in Salcedo Village, and at the following hotels: the Hyatt, Manila Diamond and Mandarin Oriental. If you want to cook some at home, you can visit Terry's Deli or call Alternatives Food Corporation (tel. 631-7228 to 30).

For USDA Prime Beef, there's a new little steakhouse on Dela Costa Street in Salcedo Village that serves amazing steaks. The name of the place is Elbert's Steakhouse (as in Elbert Cuenca of the late Restaurant 12). There is no sign out front, you will have to find the secret red

(continued on page 12)

By Reni Roxas

A Rose by any other name may be Rosa, Rosing or Rossana

A book celebrates the flamboyant genius of Pinoy name-calling

IN Spain, people are snacking on Filipinos.

Not exactly a cannibalistic practice, when the Filipinos I refer to are foil-wrapped wafers. I've tried them. Yummy!

But are they yummy enough to start another Spanish-Filipino War? Don't think so. Because over here, Filipinos are too busy calling each other names.

Pinoys have a fun name for everything. No business establishment is deemed too sacred to be spared from creative name-calling, from branded bottled water to laundromats, salons and restaurants. Look around you. Hasn't wordplay become a national pastime?

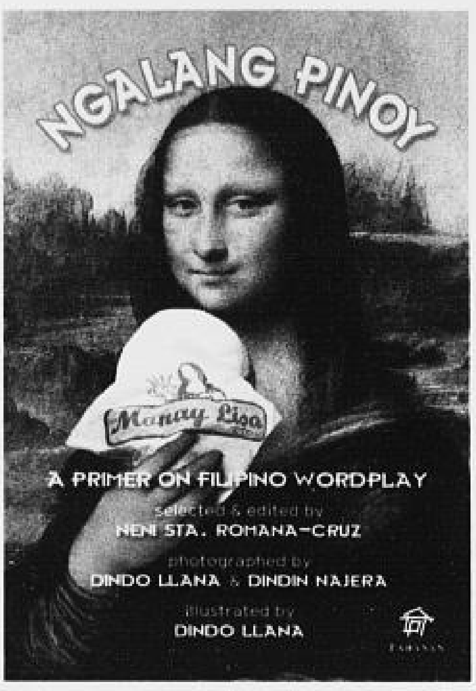
The hilarious gift book "Ngalang Pinoy: A Primer on Filipino Wordplay" (Tahanan Books) celebrates Pinoys as marvelous innovators of language. Within its pages, editor Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz and artist Dindo Llana pay tribute to the lexicographic genius of the Pinoy. Llana engaged in a bit of what he calls "guerilla photography" to snap pictures of the funniest signs and names.

"Where do such creative juices flow from?" Cruz inquires in her book. "How do these folks, untrained in the nuances of advertising and brand management, dream up [these] names?" Cite a few examples of Pinoyisms at a dinner party, she adds, and you'd be amazed at the treasure trove of words that could come up. "Truly, ours is a living language."

COOKING NG INA MO
COOKING NG INA MO RIN
"OK, LET'S EAT!"

But no wordplay is as much fun as when it comes to naming our children. "A nickname is the hardest stone that the devil can throw at a man," remarked William Hazlitt. Wise words indeed, and one way to explain why in western countries, John remains John and Mary will ever be called Mary. Over here, though, a nicknamed child is a loved child. And heaven help the child who's been given a particularly "inspired" nickname.

Filipino parents, it seems, have a field day when it comes to naming their progeny. Siblings have been named after pies (Apple Pie, Cherry Pie, Strawberry Pie), vehicles (Chevy, Mercedes, Porsche, and Volks), beverages (Brandy, Whisky, Cali, Champagne, Punch), and science (Atom, Quark, Nova, and Nuclear Bomb). Repeated names sound particularly endearing, and so we have Au-Au, Bekbek, and Junjun. And let's all answer to the doorbell names Bingbing, Bongbong, Bingbong, and Tingting.

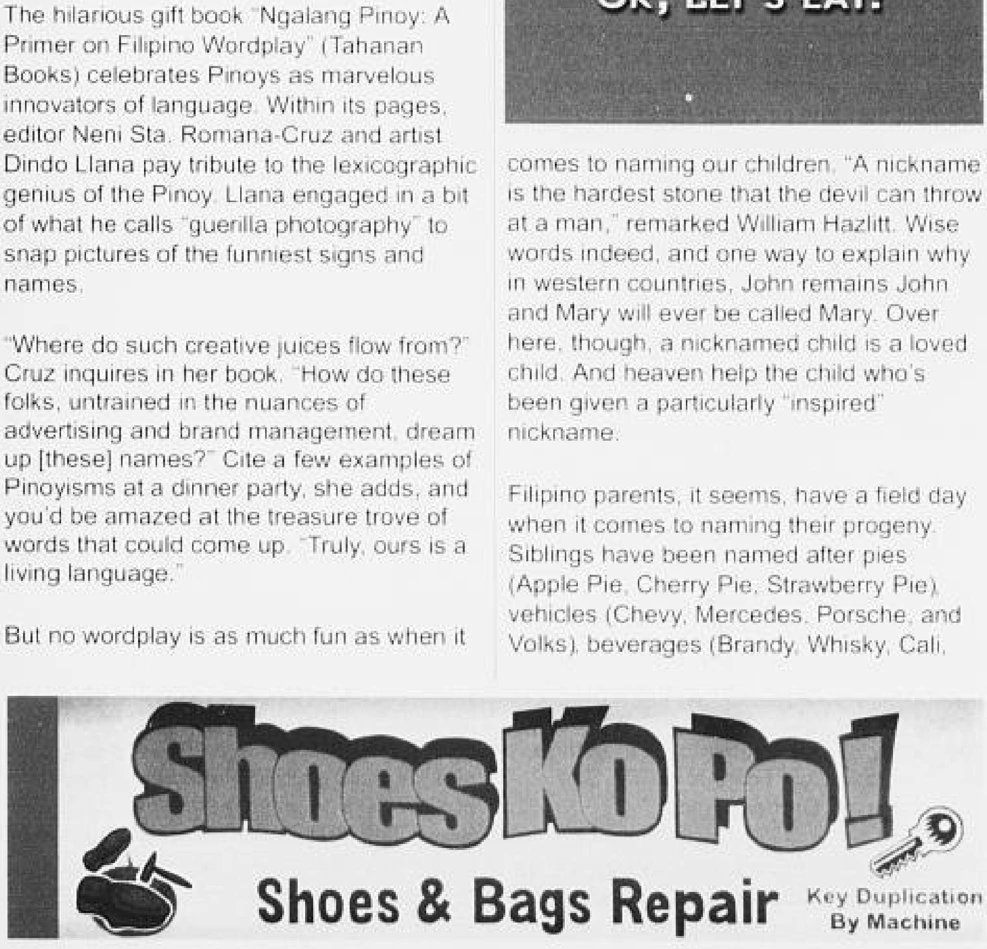


And then there's the "H" factor. Tess can't just be Tess. She's gotta be Thess, a friend of Ahlex, who is also a cousin of Rhob.

When it comes to merchandising, being original seems to be the most, well, original, claim. As in the "original buko pie" of Los Baños. Playfully thumbing their nose at Webster, buko pie tycoons unabashedly tout their products as original. There is Elvie's Original Buko Pie right alongside Mitzi's Original Specialties which competes against Areane's Original Sweets.

Being original however best defines the Filipino's gift for making up puns from established names while commenting on the Pinoy's various proclivities at the same time. So there's the karaoke bar Sinto Nado for all the Frank Sinatra wannabes singing it their way. Or would you rather croon your heart out at the Blue Marilyn, a sing-along *ihaw-ihaw* joint in Sucat? Movie titles are also ripe for the picking: there's Hair Force One or Con Hair. Or would you want to sink your teeth into salty swear words as in Cooking ng Ina Mo, a food place just a stone's throw from Cooking ng Ina Mo Rin?

(continued on page 15)


Shoes Ko Po!
Shoes & Bags Repair
Key Duplication By Machine

FEATURE

By Maria Congee S. Gomez
Photos courtesy of ABS-CBN

Local TV's most hated?

Do bad girls finish first on local television? Ask reality TV's bad girl Wendy Valdez, who has so far notched her own drama series

Good girl, bad girl: Wendy Valdez as a burlesque dancer in her TV series "Margarita" (right).

MENTION the word "abrasive" and former housemate Wendy Valdez of "Pinoy Big Brother" (PBB) immediately bristles: "I know what abrasive means, and I am partly that. Do you mean I'm one just because I defend myself from what I feel people have unjustly done to me? Or because I'm vocal about what I truly stand for? Can you call me abrasive because I fight for my family and come to the rescue of my loved ones?"

The lady doth protest too much. But then again, Valdez is well aware that she has reaped the moniker "Hate *ng* Bayan," and is considered the Resident Evil in the last incarnation of the TV reality show.

At the Araneta Coliseum hours before the declaration of the winning housemate, the 25-year-old Mass Communications graduate of the Far Eastern University heard the audience's rage when her headphone accidentally fell off. It hurt, she admits. "I wasn't numb to all that, but I had to put up a brave front and carry on. I felt I should give the crowd the space to think freely. Besides, was there anything I could have done about it?"

Her only fault, says Wendy, was being over emotional or too sensitive. "I've always had this feeling that I have to defend myself, even if people see me as lacking in finesse. My biggest problem is really how to control my emotions."

Ambet Nabus, Valdez's handler at ABS-CBN, defends his ward: "She's really like that—frank and she doesn't mince words. *Tamaan kung tamaan.* (It doesn't matter who gets hurt in the process). But we're aware that some rework is needed because people still associate her with what they saw in PBB." The repackaging, he adds, includes tips on decorum and gracious approaches when dealing with people. "Valdez has been very cooperative because she knows this is for her own good," notes Ambet. "*Hindi matigas ang ulo ng bata* (She's not pig-headed)."

The aggressive demeanor, he explains, must have stemmed from Valdez's rough background and unresolved family problems. She had to be tough to survive, he says. True, she refused to speak with her father while doing the reality TV show, but she had a reason for that, adds Valdez. "*Baka kasi may mabuksan pang ibang* topic (Other matters might crop up that would be left unresolved)." The outspoken actress was 10 when her parents separated and, she avers, she had tried to reach out to her father in the past, but was rebuffed.

Wendy is mending her ways, claims her co-stars in the ABS-CBN drama series, "Margarita." Actress Elizabeth Oropesa says she was surprised to meet a meek and subdued Valdez during the initial story meetings. "That was absolutely in contrast to the abrasive girl I caught on TV. She was different," Oropesa adds.

Things at home have started looking up as well. As main breadwinner, she is above criticism. For her family, it's enough that she supports two siblings in college and divides her small earnings between household expenses and personal needs. The rest goes into a savings account.

Nothing much has changed in her personal circumstances, though. The old appliances are still evidently in use at her old address in one of Navotas' depressed neighborhoods, but only because Valdez's calendar is so crammed she hasn't found the time to go shopping just yet. For the same reason, that condominium will have to remain in the realm of dreams at the moment.

A more urgent concern seems to be her showbiz career that, given the Filipinos' distaste for confrontational personalities, is bound to be affected by how the viewing public perceives the real person behind the role. Already, some reports note, "Margarita" is not picking up, the ratings failing to reach levels anticipated by network bigwigs. All of which leaves television's bad girl in an odd position: should she cling to being abrasive—her claim to fame so far—or should she change her image to please the viewing public? Do bad girls finish last in local television? Well, Valdez doesn't seem to be taking any chances so far. Her one message at this point: "Please give me a chance to prove myself." •

Vinyl Divine

By Eric S. Caruncho

Is the CD obsolete? With digital music downloads—both legal and otherwise—fast becoming the preferred medium for obtaining music, it's beginning to look like the days of the CD are numbered. Some prophets of techno-doom are predicting that within the next three years, CDs will all but disappear as consumers switch to MP3 players and other hard-drive media, or the higher-capacity DVDs.

When that happens, unthinkable as it might have been just 10 years ago, the vinyl LP would have outlasted its "successor."

On the brink of extinction when CDs first emerged in 1982 with its promise of "perfect sound forever," the 12-inch long-playing phonograph record has, against all odds, survived and, in some ways, even thrived.

In the beginning, it was kept alive by a small but stubborn clique of Luddites who refused to buy into the hype that CDs were better.

The bone of contention is the old "analog vs. digital" debate which has been going on since CDs were first introduced in the market.

In a nutshell, LPs are analog recordings: that spiral groove is actually a mirror image of the actual sound waves produced by the musicians. Hence, according to aficionados, it is a more faithful reproduction of the actual music.

In contrast, the CD samples the original sound waves at 44.1 khz and encodes this as digital data. This data is then reconverted back to analogue sound when the CD is played back.

Herein lies the crux of the debate: since a CD is only a sampling of the original music, analogue purists argue, it is obviously less faithful to the source. Their opponents insist that what is lost is inaudible to the human ear anyway, but some vinyl diehards claim that digital recording kills the very soul of the music.

In any case, even as MP3s emerged as a serious rival to the CD, a number of manufacturers began pressing vinyl LPs again. Some of them are small specialist companies catering to the audiophile market, licensing classic recordings and reissuing them as lavishly packaged, premium-priced limited editions, pressed on virgin vinyl.

At the same time, the turntable—long feared extinct save for the DJ's ever-reliable Technics SL 1200—made an unexpected comeback. Don't expect your dad's old console record changer, however. Like the records themselves, most of these are aimed at audiophiles with fat wallets, and exotic models that cost as much as SUVs are not unheard of.

Therein lies the catch: in order to get sound quality that trumps CD, you need to play your LPs on a high-quality turntable, equipped with a better-than-average cartridge and stylus (known to the average Joe as "the needle"), which will cost several times your garden-variety CD player.

'Listening to digital, like CDs, is like watching porn; listening to analog, like long-playing albums, is like actually having sex.'

And you have to keep your records scrupulously clean, because dirt translates into the annoying ticks and pops that made you switch to CDs in the first place.

But, say analog addicts, all the investment in equipment and time spent hunting down records in thrift shops will pay off with "warm," "human" analog sound as opposed to "cold" digital. In contrast, they say, even a short session listening to digital fatigues the ear. As one vinyl fetishist put it, "listening to digital is like watching porn, listening to analog is like actually having sex."

Maybe.

In any case, the growing number of converts to analogue have kept vinyl alive, although the titles available on LP represent only a fraction of those available in the CD format. Most of these are reissues of classic pop and jazz albums, often pressed on premium virgin vinyl. Fully Booked is the Philippine distributor of a number of these small labels, although new vinyl comes at a premium. A classic Miles Davis or Bob Dylan LP, specially pressed on heavy 180 gram vinyl, will set you back anywhere from P1,800 to P2,000—equivalent to the cost of three or four CDs.

Less well-heeled vinyl fetishists can always buy used LPs. Not too long ago, you couldn't give them away, but with the resurgence of vinyl and the growing number of collectors, even scratchy local pressings of sought-after titles are fetching unheard-of prices in the used market.

One of the few outlets in Manila for used LPs is Bebop Records, a tiny basement stall in the Makati Cinema Square which opened in 1994, when record collector Bobby de Leon decided to turn his hobby into a business.

"The demand for LPs is increasing, but the supply is dwindling," he says. "I used to get a lot of records in the secondhand shops, but now I have to look for them abroad. They now cost more, but then people are willing to pay higher prices for them nowadays. My average price for a used LP in good condition is now around P500. When I started out, I was selling them for P80 to P100."

Many are audiophiles newly-converted to vinyl, who are building record collections to play on their newly-acquired turntables. Many more are obsessive record collectors who are willing to pay premium prices for rarities such as long-deleted original Pinoy rock albums or first pressings of jazz albums on iconic labels like Impulse or Blue Note. •

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

Iza Goes to Hollywood

The star of "Impostora" proves she's the genuine article by echoing her award-winning role in the U.S. remake of the movie "Sigaw"

Ernie U. Sarmiento

Going places: Iza is bent on making it in global cinema.

WHILE all of Manila was reeling from the twin visits of American actor Josh Hartnett and director Quentin Tarantino, Filipino actress Iza Calzado was nervously preparing for her own Hollywood close-up that same week.

To top it off, it was also the hectic week of her birthday.

In fact, Iza's trip to Toronto, Canada, for the shoot of "The Echo," the Hollywood remake of Yam Laranas' "*Sigaw*," came a day after her 25th birthday. In a lot of ways, Toronto was a fitting birthday gift, although it also gave the actress a bad case of last minute jitters. Three days before her trip, the conscientious actress confides that her main concern was finishing her tapings for the GMA 7 soap opera "*Impostora*."

"I don't want to leave anything unfinished," she remarks. "Hopefully, I'll accomplish all that I need to do."

Fortunately for Iza, the network allowed her to take a leave from the TV series, as well as from the QTV show she hosts, "At Your Service Star Power." Her dad, choreographer Lito Calzado, adds that Regal Films had also permitted Iza to take a break from the shoot of "*Desperadas*," an entry in this December's Metro Manila Film Festival.

Iza wisely used such breaks to prepare for "The Echo." She reveals: "I read the [English-language] script and watched '*Sigaw*' again. I also planned to sit down with a dialect coach so that I would have the right accent."

Chuck Gutierrez, director Yam's apprentice, also helped Iza gather DVDs of past movies of her Hollywood co-stars Jesse Bradford and Amelia Warner. "I've only seen one of Amelia's movies, 'Winter Passing,'" she recounts. "But I am familiar with Jesse's work in 'King of the Hill' and 'Bring it On.'"

Iza was just as well-prepared on the set of "*Sigaw*" in 2005. "To research my role, I watched movies on domestic violence, like 'Enough,' starring Jennifer Lopez. I also talked with a real-life victim of spousal abuse. We met in a coffee shop and she told me that she was hiding from her abusive partner," she recounts.

Pink Soda

"Gifted," director Yam Laranas says of Iza.

She walked away from the experience realizing the real meaning of fear. That was why she made it a point to "exude" trepidation every time she shared the screen with "*Sigaw*" husband Jomari Yllana. "It was a big help that our location for '*Sigaw*' was really sad and eerie. It was an old abandoned building in Binondo," adds Iza.

Ida Henares, assistant vice president and head of GMA Artist Center, recalled that, although Iza had been sick during the "*Sigaw*" shoot, no one noticed it. "She never complained. She had to endure a lot of pain but she really worked hard on that movie."

Her efforts eventually won Iza an Urian Best Supporting Actress award from the local film critics' group Manunuri in 2005.

Quite naturally, when it was time to remake "*Sigaw*" in Hollywood, her director fought tooth and nail for Iza. "She's gifted. She can very well be the Philippines' Penelope Cruz," Yam told the INQUIRER in April, before leaving for Los Angeles and Toronto. "You never feel that she's acting. She becomes the character."

Still, Iza didn't think twice about auditioning for the same role she had already won a trophy for. "Chuck, Yam's assistant, shot my audition piece, which he later e-mailed to the producers," she recalls.

In an INQUIRER story by LA correspondent Ruben Nepales, Yam quoted "Echo" producer Roy Lee praising Iza: "She was perfect in the original. Why shouldn't we get her for the remake?"

Iza met Roy during the "Sigaw" screening, at the LA Screamfest (horror film festival) where it won the Best Music award for composer Jesse Lucas in 2005. She sat beside the producer, who was generous in complimenting the Filipino cast.

"Roy told me that the acting was generally good. He praised all of us in the cast," Iza reminisces. "That's why I believe Filipino artists can really shine in the international scene."

According to reports, Iza had to compete with three foreign actresses for the plum role and, when it came to the final round, with an A-list Hollywood actress. "When I heard my name mentioned alongside that of a popular actress as part of the final two (choices), I got more daunted," Iza quips. "It was really scary."

Like a true Pinay, however, she stormed the heavens with prayers. "I prayed to all the saints that I know," she recounts. "I prayed the novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to St. Therese."

Dad Lito asserts that his daughter deserves this Hollywood break because "she's prayerful and obedient." Maryo J. de los Reyes, "*Impostora*" director, agrees: "She has the beauty and talent for global cinema. She has a wide acting range and, given good direction and equipped with the right values, she'll definitely go places."

First stop for Iza is Toronto, where she will be staying for about three weeks. "Good thing she has a group of Christian friends who will be helping her throughout her stay," says Ida.

On the eve of her flight, Iza is still at a loss on how she would react upon meeting her Hollywood co-stars Jesse and Amelia. "I guess I'll just tell them that there are a lot of good actors in the Philippines," she says. "A lot of undiscovered talent."

It wasn't lost on her that it was also her chance to make her fellow Filipinos proud. "But no pressure *ha*?" she gasps.•

By Anna Theresa Licaros

To Miss Universe —and beyond!

"It's not easy being a beauty queen; up there in my mini-skirt and four-inch heels, I agonize over every word and gesture. This isn't about me anymore; I have become my country"

PHILIPPINES

Personal best: Licaros as the country's representative to Miss Universe

MY most distinct memory from the Miss Universe pageant this year was that of Miss France holding a cheeseburger served us at Hard Rock Café Mexico. Holding half a burger with her delicate fingers, she looked at me and said: "Ye know, Tu-ress, ze first thing I learn to zay in eve-ree langu-egh is ze word, hamburguer."

I looked at her, nodded and bit into my burger. I was so hungry after all that walking up and down the Basque de Chapultepec in four-inch heels. It's not easy being a beauty queen. Try fitting a mirror, lipstick, lip gloss, face powder and extra eyelash glue into a tote and carrying it around with poise while you negotiate palatial staircases in your heels and miniskirt. Every day was a marathon for us at Miss U.

Meanwhile, Miss France continued her train of thought: "Like here in Mexico… zey call it hamburguesa. What about you, Tu-ress? What do zey call it in ze Philippines?" I was taken aback. I'm a pretty articulate person with above average capacity for witty retorts, but in this pageant, all sorts of questions were hurled at me from nowhere! It was like the question and answer portion, only worse: they were mostly everyday stuff about me and my country that I never really thought about before joining the pageant. I tried to buy some time by sipping my Coke light, *sin hielo*, lest I find myself running to the loo every five minutes. I struggled for the Filipino word for hamburger: *Ham-barger*?

Oops, too late. Someone mentioned another topic and the conversation shifted. *Ham-barger* it was. I reeled at the thought of how this might affect how the Philippines is perceived by the next person that Miss France meets to whom she repeats this conversation. That was my everyday reality as Miss Philippines in the Miss Universe pageant. I ceased to be just Theresa or *Tu-ress* to Rachel/Miss France. I became the Philippines.

Early on, I became aware of what representing my country really means. Having to wear the banner "Philippines" across my breast every single day kept me on my toes, careful of how I've been projecting myself and of everything I say or do. To some extent it was scary, but also a source of pride. Every smile I flashed, each pose I struck was done with the thought that it should be my best because this wasn't just about me anymore.

For the most part, the other contestants were fantastic. Contrary to popular belief that women who join beauty pageants are airheads or bimbos, most are college graduates with full time jobs in their own countries. They are opinionated and know what they want.

When I came back from Mexico, I was

"Fantastic!" was how Licaros (third from right) described the other Miss U contestants.

always asked if acts of sabotage really took place during the pageant. *(Reportedly the most controversial in years, the 2007 Miss Universe pageant saw Miss USA being booed by some Mexicans unhappy over a pending immigration bill in the US, Miss Sweden pulling out after complaints in her country described the contest as degrading to women, and Miss Mexico being asked to change costumes because the original was deemed in poor taste.*—**Ed.**)

I'm happy to report that I didn't experience any such incident firsthand. The closest thing to intrigue that I encountered was a remark from a fellow candidate that was perhaps meant to psych me out. During one rehearsal, I was called onstage to do the evening gown pattern, after which I had to look at the camera and pose. Suddenly, everyone was clapping and cheering. I must have done something right, I thought.

Indeed, when I got off stage, Miss Tanzania approached me, saying "Girl, that was an amazing face!" Most everyone thought so, except for Miss Bolivia who told me flat out: "You look dead onstage. Your eyes are just blank. Maybe you should, like, move your eyebrows or something." Just friendly advice, she said, because she wanted me to do well. That was odd, I told her; another candidate had just told me the exact opposite. Miss Bolivia simply rolled her eyes and said I should trust her instead. Well, I thought afterwards, when you do something significant, you'll get both good and bad reactions.

As an insider, I also learned that the Miss Universe organizers and production team wanted to veer away from the traditional pageant look and feel. They discouraged stiff and exaggerated posturing and encouraged sexy, relaxed, fluid and model-like movements. A Miss Universe, said our catwalk teacher, Lu Sierra, must know how to smile. She hated it when the contestants sported sexy I'm-gonna-eat-you-alive looks. The pageant organizers had a "look" in mind and I was personally sold to the subtle but sexy models' stance that they advocated.

There were so many things to learn and it wasn't always smooth sailing. There were really days when I just wanted to put a paper bag over my head and not wear any makeup. I had to keep telling myself that I was in Mexico to do a job and that the job requires me to put on makeup at five in the morning. So I'd just shake off whatever negative feelings I felt, play some dance music and sing along while putting on my pageant face. That was how I got through the doldrums.

Apparently, I did that so well that some contestants would ask me to close my eyes so they could check out my eye makeup. They said they liked the way I blended the colors. One photographer even took a photo of my right eye. Just my right eye! He said it looked so beautiful that he wanted a shot of it. My thanks go to Jay Lozada, Allen Rosales, Lia Ramos and Jenny Tan for selflessly sharing their makeup tips with me.

That kind of team work, or collaboration, also defined my Miss Universe experience. There were so many teachers who shared their knowledge with me, as well as family and friends who flew all the way to Mexico to become my cheering squad and support group. I got a lot of joshing when I gave my guest list: 25 people strong. Not bad for a pacific islander who lives roughly 12 time zones away. It was the kind of support that others could only envy. My roomie, Miss Thailand, wanted to "borrow" a brother because she didn't have any family around during the pageant. I gladly obliged, telling the *bunso* in our family to go wild when Thailand gets called. I think he did go wild—for all the girls—so that was substantial compliance.

The reality of representing one's country can be daunting, but it also enhanced me as a person. While it might have been a source of insecurity to pose beside Barbie lookalikes, it boosted my confidence nonetheless. I looked at them and felt that I deserved to be there. Cheesy, I know, but when I stood there in high heels beside the most beautiful women in the universe, something changed. I was no longer a passive participant to whom things happen; instead, I chose to embrace the experience and learn from it. That made all the difference for me.

More than just another beauty pageant, this year's Miss U put things into perspective for me. In a nutshell, my 30 days in Mexico with 76 other women from all over the world was a crash course in culture, diplomacy, confidence, and worst of all, geography. I'll always remember—with amusement tinged with shame—how I had managed to put so many countries in the wrong continent and historical era and unwittingly displayed such ignorance by asking the delegate about it. So, I asked Miss Egypt, "You're from Cairo. How are the pyramids?" She smiled and giggled: "They're in Giza." Getting my witty retort mode back, I countered: "Well, maybe if you'd take me around the Middle East one of these days, it won't be so confusing." As she wiped her fingers on a tissue, Miss France interjected: "Isn't Egypt in Africa?" •

Licaros is a junior at the UP College of Law. She plans to visit Egypt and see the pyramids next summer, and find out how they say "hamburger" in Arabic.

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

				2			9	
2	8	3	1				7	
					6		5	
		7					4	
6				1				9
	1					2		
	3		4					
	2				7	9	1	3
	9			6				

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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8/26

Answer to previous puzzle

8	3	2	5	1	4	9	6	7
5	1	7	3	9	6	4	2	8
4	9	6	7	8	2	1	5	3
1	7	4	9	6	3	5	8	2
6	5	8	2	7	1	3	9	4
3	2	9	8	4	5	6	7	1
7	4	5	1	2	9	8	3	6
2	6	3	4	5	8	7	1	9
9	8	1	6	3	7	2	4	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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The Meat of It (from page 4)

door on the 3rd floor of the Sagittarius Building (shhh don't tell the owner or staff you read about it in **SIM**, they want to build a rep first by word of mouth but it's too good to keep a secret!). It looks like an elite gentleman's club with leather armchairs and a good selection of single malts. They are only in their opening stages and I have been there only once so I'll have to save the review for another day. But in the meantime, I can share that their rib-eye was juicy, flavorful and had intense marbling, with a richness and depth that reflects the quality of their meats and the expertise of their kitchen. (But the richness and depth of your pocket will also have to be of best quality. The rib-eye costs P2,200!)

For Certified Black Angus, there's Myron's in Rockwell (order the Myron rib-eye and savor the certified marbling!). And for Wagyu burgers, well, they're all over the place: Burger Bar by Massimo's in the Cliffhouse in Tagaytay, Myron's, Malcolm's Place in Salcedo, and Palm Court at the Diamond Hotel, to name a few Wagyu lovers. Be warned though, some (not all) of these Wagyus are half-Pinoy by way of Bukidnon! (Not necessarily a bad thing, if you ask me, but if you're particular, well, there's the heads up.)

But the Japanese don't burger their Wagyu. The Kobe beef burger is an American indiginezation of a Jap delicacy. So if you want to appreciate Wagyu the traditional way, hit Tsukiji on Pasay Road. Tsukiji goes the extra mile to do it right: they fly in their Wagyu from Japan. (In Japan there's Kobe, Ohmi and Matsuzaka beef. Tsukiji uses Ohmi). Here it is appreciated shabu-shabu style in thin strips that are cooked before your eyes. And you know it passes even Jap standards as you look around the restaurant and see the all-Jap clientele. At Tsukiji it's simply the real thing. (Tsukiji is located at 3/F, 900 A. Arnaiz Avenue cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. Tel. nos. 843-4285 / 812-2913.)

So what's the best beef? The snob would say dry-aged Kobe at $200 a piece, maybe more. He would fly to Hong Kong to savor such sirloin. Meanwhile my peasant taste buds remain partial to Burger Machine: thin, greasy burgers that bring back memories of carefree college days and cost less than 50 bucks. No Kobe can beat that! •

Figure It Out

"Spider-Man 3"

1910: Year "In Old California" was filmed in Hollywood; the first film to be shot there

1919: Year the first Filipino film, "Dalagang Bukid" by Jose Nepomuceno, was released

P139 million: Total ticket sales posted by Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) top grosser "Kasal, Kasali, Kasalo" in 2006

P128 million: Total ticket sales posted by "Enteng Kabisote 3," which won Best Picture in the same festival 2006

P414 million: Total MMFF earnings during the festival's two-week duration

P45.65 million: Total nationwide gross sales for "Spider-Man 3" on its opening day alone

US$4 billion: Total gross sales for first five "Harry Potter" movies worldwide

Compiled by Kate Pedroso, Inquirer Research

Sources: Oscars official website, CCP Encyclopedia, Inquirer Archives

FEATURE

By Marlet D. Salazar
Photos by Rudy Esperas

His Pet Cause

VIP stands for Vets in Practice, but for Dr. Nick Carpio, it might as well describe this animal clinic's clients

Hands-on: Carpio with two of his favorite clients

IF Dr. Nicholas "Nick" Carpio had his way, he would have veterinarians in the Philippines pursue specializations that will help them handle the most hopeless cases of sick animals.

In his five years with Vets in Practice (VIP), Carpio shares that the most challenging case he's encountered so far was that of a dog which suddenly had a seizure. The clinic had to run several tests, including a CT scan, to determine if the seizures had something to do with the brain. In such cases, this animal doctor wishes there were vets who are experts in more specialized fields, like neurology.

A veterinarian of seven years, Carpio immediately left for a practice in California after graduating from the University of the Philippines Los Baños in Laguna. He came home two years ago. At VIP, Carpio shares the passion to help animals with Doctors Nielsen Donato, Michael Velarde, and wife Marga. Donato and Marga specialize in treating wildlife while Carpio is more into domestic animals like dogs and cats.

Love for animals is something Carpio, 33, has had in his blood since he was a child.

"I used to care for snakes, monkeys, small carabao, and of course dogs," he says. "And I used to keep them hidden from my parents—although they still found out eventually." At present, he has developed a special interest in spiders and critters.

Carpio initially took up Agricultural Economics at the UP Los Baños. His love for animals was rekindled when he saw some of his roommates who were then taking up Veterinary Medicine "leading a more exciting school life" than his.

"I usually finished first in doing school stuff," Carpio recalls. "And I would envy my roommates who were staying up late and bonding with each other." He decided to shift courses and later became one of the first vets of VIP, which was founded in 2003. In California, he worked at Amar Glen Animal Hospital, La Mirada Animal Clinic, Bloomfield Pet Clinic, and the Warren Animal Hospital.

Having practiced abroad proved to be an advantage since VIP's regular clients are mostly expats, notes Carpio. They bring feral cats to be spayed or neutered before being released again after recovery.

"They are volunteers who take in these stray animals from the vicinity of Manila Bay," he adds. Taking care of native dogs and cats seems to be a trait shared by their celebrity clients, says Carpio, noting that while a number of them have purebred pets, "there are some who love mongrels as well."

VIP accepts the usual vet cases like viral diseases, and the most extraordinary ones like artificial insemination. The clinic is also known for doing tooth implants especially among wildlife, and for putting prosthetics on birds that have lost their beaks.

"At VIP, we are always hands-on," says Carpio. Pets are handled by the same vets during succeeding checkups so there is less stress on the animals as the docs already know their medical history.

The growing trend in animal welfare awareness in the Philippines hasn't escaped Carpio, and he's pleased no end. "Most people these days know how to care for their pets," he says. "And they come from all social classes, bringing in their pets by car or pedicab."

Filipinos too have learned to feed their pets not just table scraps but special dog or cat food, he observes. Even the malls have opened their doors to these animal companions—"a most encouraging development," he adds.

The love for animals, notes this father of one, "can grow in you." He recalls how his househelp initially had no inkling why he was making such a fuss about treating animals kindly. These days, he often finds them talking and playing with their household pets as if it were the most normal thing to do. He himself has learned to love cats, even though initially, he confesses, he was a dog lover. "I've realized that contrary to common belief, cats are very affectionate animals too."

Aside from treating animals, VIP also helps animal welfare groups in the spay and neuter campaign. The last time the clinic lent a hand was when two pit bulls were rescued from a dog fighting event in Antipolo City.

Unlike other professionals, Carpio doesn't mind bringing home his work. After all, the love of animals is something he'd like to pass on to his infant daughter Roxie. It's not just a pet cause but a shared family trait, he adds.•

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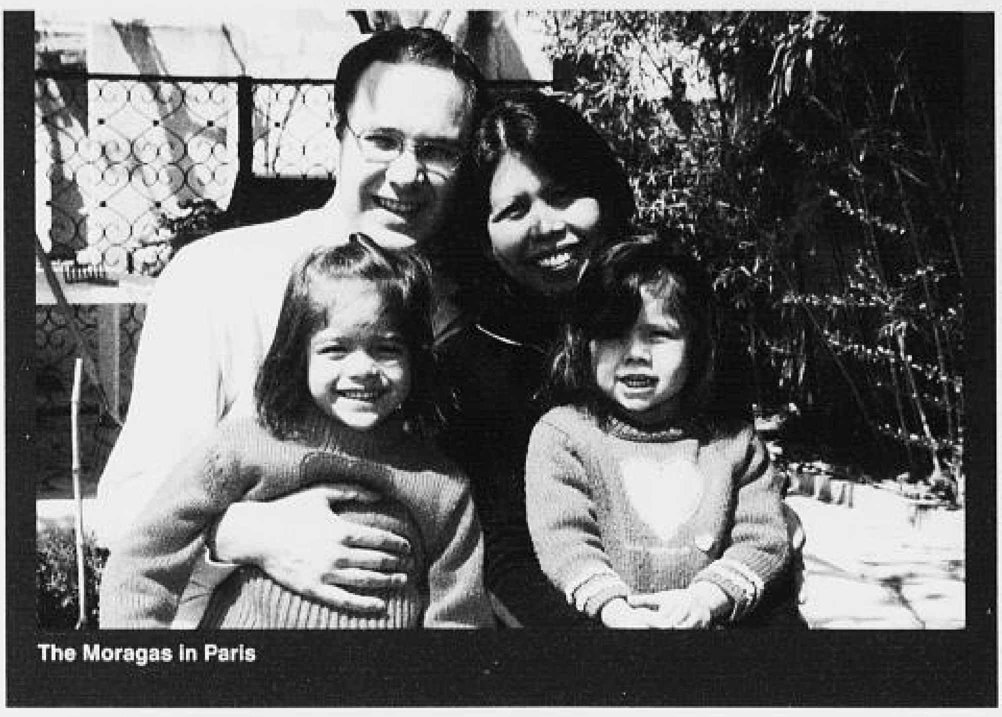
A mix of French sophistication and Pinoy affection

They met at the altar even before they got hitched: he as choirmaster, she as choir soloist. Today, the Moragas are hitting the high notes in running Hotel Gavarni in Paris



The Moragas in Paris

It is inevitable to feel homesick to some degree when traveling to unfamiliar places abroad. Fortunately for Filipinos in Paris, there's a place that offers a touch of home, thanks to a young Filipina who has settled in this City of Lights.

Dita Moraga, herself initially overwhelmed by the vastness of Europe, has found her heart and home in Hotel Gavarni in Paris, which is managed by husband Xavier Moraga. The couple met at the altar way before they tied the knot: Xavier was choirmaster, the Dumaguete lass the choir's soloist. The two exchanged vows at the Saint-Germain-l'Auxerrois Church, where NBA champion Tony Parker and "Desperate Housewives'" star Eva Longoria recently got hitched.

Cultural differences posed no problem to the Moragas' union, thanks largely to Dita being well-traveled. Before she lived in Paris, she had stayed in Chicago for four years and in Holland for a year. "I can easily adapt to my surroundings," says Dita, who now has two beautiful daughters with Xavier. Although she's grown accustomed to the European lifestyle, Dita admits that she looks forward to her yearly visits to the Philippines and to the warm embrace of family and friends.

The sense of family is present as well in her work as hotel *gouvernante*, says Dita. "More than just a team, our staff works as a family helping each other out." Agrees longtime employee Luisito Navarro: "I'm not afraid to be under French supervision because they are very understanding. I was initially scared because I did not speak French and did not have legal papers. But now everything's fine. I've acquired a residence card and raised my family here. I've brushed up on my French and have a good job." Most of all, he adds, he feels really proud when guests compliment him on the hotel's cleanliness and good service. Adds Eusebio Juyad: "Yes, regular guests treat us like family or friends… The French never fail to greet us or express their gratitude with a *'merci beaucoup.'*"

Cozy: The Eiffel Suite at Hotel Gavarni

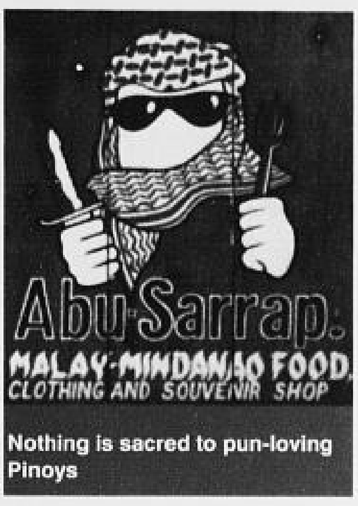
For their part, the Filipino staff never fails to smile, observes Dita. "The workload can get exhausting, but it is normal," she says. And Filipinos, despite adversity, always have something to smile about, she adds.

Dita herself has a lot to smile about, most of them having to do with being part of a well-managed hotel. Conveniently located just steps away from the Eiffel Tower, Hotel Gavarni, which was originally built in 1907, was completely refurbished in 2001 but has retained its original red brick façade, stylish iron cast window bars and Art Nouveau touches. It now has 21 rooms with four luxury suites, each of them with a distinct theme. Modern amenities like a massage shower and Jacuzzi, Wi-Fi DSL, a flat screen LCD TV, satellite channels and a DVD player make each room a contemporary haven with world-class services to match. The result is a comforting mix of French sophistication and Filipino affection, a welcoming abode indeed for travelers who long for adventure while pining for the familiar. **Philip Abadicio**

Hotel Gavarni is at 5 rue Gavarni 75116 Paris. Official website : www.gavarni.com. Tel : + 33 1 45 24 52 82; Fax : + 33 1 40 50 16 95. Email: reservation@gavarni.com.

A Rose by any other name ... (from page 5)

(from page 5)



Nothing is sacred to pun-loving Pinoys

Showbiz is a fertile place for similar puns. There's the dress shop called Elizabeth Tailoring, the hair salon Felix d'Cut, the laundromat Baywash, and a moneychanger shop called Starbucks. With apologies to Yves St. Laurent, would you weep if you found out that your YSL jacket was actually Yari Sa Laguna?

Even at death's door, Pinoys still find reason to laugh. How would you like to get on a hearse headed for the Last Trip Funeral Parlor? Or would you rather enter feet first at Funeraria Mabuhay? Or, if you can't take it with you, would you rather leave your earthly stuff to your family and make do with the Factory Price Funeral?

Ngalang Pinoy invites readers to "open our eyes and ears to the sights and sounds of Pinoyhood." From the time we get our nicknames to that last ride to the cemetery, we are forever coining labels for all that surround us. It makes the trip so much better. •

"Ngalang Pinoy: A Primer on Filipino Wordplay" is available at all major bookstores. Published by Tahanan Books (www.tahananbooks.com).

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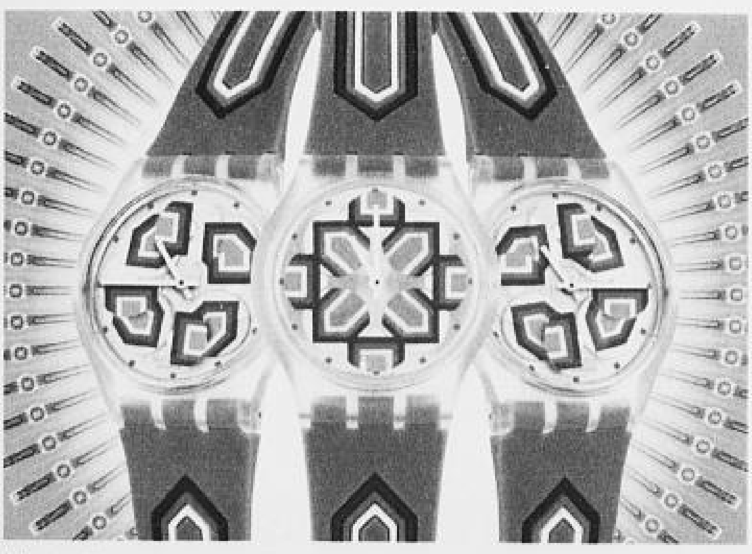
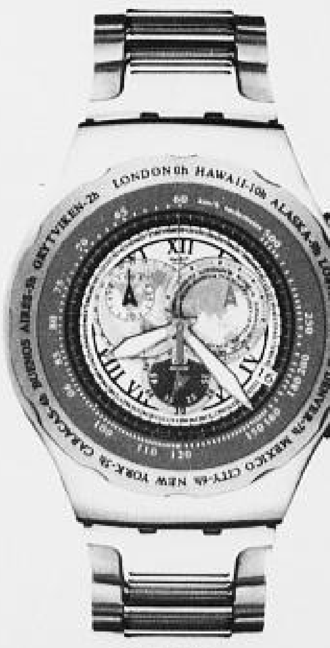
SWATCH GUYS!

SWATCH has unveiled a delightfully fashionable, vivacious and colourful collection of watches for the Fall Winter 2007 season.

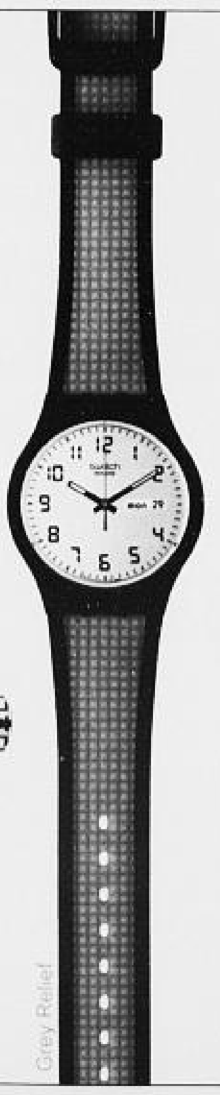
Always one step ahead of the latest twists and turns on the catwalks, SWATCH has aligned its new collection for the active guy. MOVING FLOWER - Jelly in Jelly Puzzle Motion features a symmetrical pattern of red, orange and white stripes. TRAVEL MAN - a wealth of maps and measurements for the adventurous man. STYLE ICON - with the classic braided brown leather strap. GREY RELIEF - Reflections in a mirrored dial accompanied by a grey textured strap.



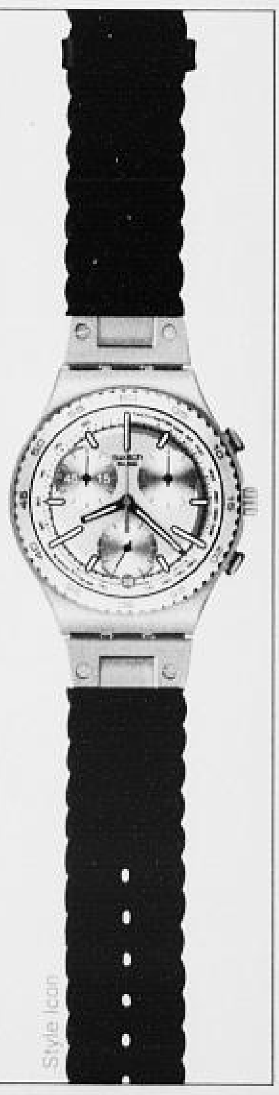
Moving Flower



Travel Man



Grey Relief



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